

Prime Minister's decision against election angers opponents

James Callaghan, the Prime Minister, yesterday ruled an early general election when he told the nation on television and radio of the Government's intention to carry out a fifth and final session of the present parliament. Margaret Thatcher, the Conservative leader, said the decision was against the national interest. Mr David Steel,

who described the announcement as "truly astounding", said the sooner the Government went to the country the better, and pledged that the Liberals would "act accordingly". The Scottish National Party rejected any idea of a formal pact to keep Labour in office, but an unspoken arrangement has not been ruled out.

SNP may offer support, but rules out pact

Ed Emery, the Labour Party's spokesman, said the Prime Minister's decision was "a truly astounding move". He said the Government had "no alternative" but to call an election. He added that the Labour Party would "act accordingly".

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Sir Harold denies any knowledge of oil details

Political Correspondent
Sir Harold Wilson again asserted last night that when he was Prime Minister he had no knowledge that British oil companies were supplying oil to Rhodesia in defiance of the sanctions order.

CBI calls for £5,250m tax cuts in 8-point strategy for economy

By John Huxley
The Confederation of British Industry yesterday put forward an eight-point strategy, including plans for tax cuts worth £5,250m, by which it claims Britain could achieve growth of at least 3½ per cent and create one million jobs over the next three years.

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These would be reinforced by the introduction of higher tax allowances and thresholds, and reduced rates for surcharge on investment incomes. A further £500m in cuts would take the forms of restructured capital gains tax, further relief on capital transfer tax and reduced corporation tax from 52 to 50 per cent and in the case of small companies, from 42 to 40 per cent.

Continued on page 5, col 1



Ministerial amusement in Downing Street after the Cabinet meeting election decision yesterday: from left, Eric Varley, Shirley Williams (part obscured), David Bunnell, Elwyn Jones, Bruce Millan, Edmund Dell, Peter Shore and Stanley Orme.

SNP rejects formal pact with Government

From Ronald Faux, Edinburgh
The Scottish National Party last night rejected any question of pacts with the Government in the next session of Parliament and expressed disappointment that there was not to be an autumn election.

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Missile brought down Rhodesian airliner

From Nicholas Ashford, Salisbury, Sept 7
The Air Rhodesia airliner disaster last Sunday was caused by a heat-seeking missile, Mr William Irvine, the Co-Minister of Transport and Power, announced in the Rhodesian Parliament today. He said the missile hit the airliner's inner starboard engine.

Sex and cash inquiry at Liberal club

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter
Allegations concerning homosexuality and financial matters at the National Liberal Club are being investigated by detectives who have spoken to a former club official.

On Wednesday the officers visited at his home by officers from Scotland Yard's serious crimes squad, who are believed to have started an inquiry after a letter had been sent to Sir David McNeice, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, by a member of the staff.

Continued on page 6

Keith Moon is found dead

Keith Moon, aged 31, the rock star and drummer with The Who, was found dead in bed in a flat in Cuckoo Street, Mayfair, London, yesterday. On Wednesday he had announced his engagement to Miss Annette Walter-Lax, aged 23, a model.



Kenya's new capital, Nairobi, is seen from the Kenyatta Avenue.

Second round of talks at silent Camp David

Patrick Brogan, Washington, Sept 7
The Middle East summit continues at Camp David, in the Maryland hills, and the secrecy which the meetings are surrounded remains impenetrable.

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Saffron gambit

Two saffron-robed members of the Ananda Marga sect, on bail after their conviction on charges of attempted murder, saw their friend Victor Karpov draw in the chess championship in Baguio. They sat meditating in lotus positions across the aisle from Karpov's parapsychologist.

Saturday review

An extract from J. G. Farrell's *Singapore Grip* is tomorrow's main feature in the Saturday Review. There is also an interview with the author of the novel, Carol Moorehead. Alison Ross celebrates the return of the Red Lantern fungus in an intriguing article.

Shop stewards ousted

Shop stewards representing the 1,500 machinists on strike at Leyland's Bathgate factory were dismissed last night by the engineering union's district committee for refusing to instruct the men to go back.

Britain sued over wine

The EEC Commission is to take Britain to court, Italy and Denmark to the European Court. It accuses the four nations of using taxation to discriminate against imported spirits and wine, and says Britain has raised the tax on wine to five times that on beer. The court's decision is not expected for several months.

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Pan Am routes shorn

Pan Am, which has agreed merger terms with National Airlines, is to suspend all operations to the Soviet Union and eastern Europe because it is operating at a disadvantage against state-owned airlines. Services to other European centres are to be cut, pending reorganization of operations.

Wagnerian treasure

An important collection of musical manuscripts and letters by Richard Wagner goes on sale in New York next month. It includes *Tannhäuser*, which is expected to fetch the highest price of up to £125,000, and a letter to Mathilde Wesendonck intercepted by his wife.

Concorde for show

A British Airways Concorde will open the flying display at the Farnborough air show on Sunday, after complaints about its absence. It will make two low passes, and is expected to attract 100,000 spectators.

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HOME NEWS

Decision: Government predicts changes in school admission law but omits unions' pledge to extend parental choice

Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Government promises to extend parental choice of school but omits from its plans a pledge to extend parental choice in education, published today in the form of a government paper.

The 40-page "progress report" simply says that the Government is "re-examining" the school admissions law and for local authorities to plan the organization of their schools to make the best use of available resources had under the Education Act 1944.

But those changes are clearly intended primarily to close the loophole that enables parents to send their child to a school of their choice by school entry, though such a place had been refused; and enable local authorities to plan reductions in admissions more easily and effectively with falling school rolls.

Authorities want to be able to refuse a child admission even though a place might be available, to ensure that the diminishing number of pupils is shared around; and that places where necessary are not wasted. The Government recognizes that need.

The only reference to parental wishes in the report is its comment that admission arrangements operate fairly in all areas, but that the extent of parental preference varies substantially.

The report, which may be seen both as a contribution to Labour's election campaign and as Mrs Shirley Williams's swansong (no one expects her to remain as Secretary of State for Education and Science after the election), touches on every aspect of education, from nursery schools to adult education, and pulls together the initiatives and decisions since 1974 as part of a coherent strategy.

On the curriculum, it says that the Government hopes to publish early next year a summary of local authorities' replies to a questionnaire, which will form the basis for further consultations.

At the same time, its Assessment of Performance Unit would continue monitoring national standards in mathematics, to be followed next year by languages, and in 1980 by science. The inquiry into mathematics teaching in schools, under the chairmanship of Dr W. H. Cockcroft, of the New University of Ulster, would begin this autumn.

"None of these developments is intended to lead to central control of the school curriculum," the report says. "But each will serve to pinpoint weaknesses and to show how the education service can best match its provision against national needs. They will also help to achieve a better balance between competence in basic skills and wider needs such as the understanding of contemporary society and the world in which we live." No explicit reference is made to political education.

On examinations, the report says that Mrs Williams will

soon announce her decision on the Waddell report on a common examination at 16-plus to replace the present CSE and O-level examinations. A favourable announcement is expected next week.

Of another recent report, that of the Oakes committee on the management of higher education in the universities, the Government says it broadly agrees with the report's conclusions but is consolidating interests involved before steps are taken.

On the Taylor report, the Government reaffirms its promise to introduce legislation allowing parents and teachers to play an appropriate part of school governing bodies.

It also confirms its intention to commit itself in due course to statutory awards for young people in full-time education and, in the long term, to offer all young people appropriate vocational training. The White Paper on education and training policies for the 16-18 age group will be published next year, the report says.

On nursery schools, the Government points to the growth since 1974. Fifty-three per cent of all four-year-old children and 15 per cent of three-year-olds now receive free education, compared with targets of 90 per cent and 50 per cent suggested by the Plowden report of 1967. That target should be reached by the mid-1980s, the report says.

The cost of school meals would be held at 25p throughout 1978-79, it says. Progress in Education. (Department of Education and Science, Stationery Office, Wey).

Concorde to give flying display at Farnborough

From Arthur Reed, Air Correspondent, Farnborough

A Concorde airliner will be put into the flying display on Sunday at the Farnborough air show after criticism of its absence.

It will be one of the British Airways fleet of five, but Mr Brian Trubshaw, the British Aerospace test pilot who made the maiden flight in the British-assembled Concorde 002, will occupy the co-pilot's seat. Captain Brian Walpole, British Airways Concorde flight manager, will be in command.

The aircraft will open the display, making two low passes over the show and a touch-and-go landing. More than 100,000 people are expected at Farnborough on Sunday and the criticism had been that there would be no opportunity for members of the public to see the Concorde in the development of which British taxpayers have invested more than £600m.

Executives of the American Boeing Vertol Company at the show were jubilant yesterday at the sale to British Airways of three Chinook helicopters, with options on three more. The order is worth about £30m.

British Airways will use the Chinooks, which carry 43 passengers, to take crews and materials to oil and gas rigs in the North Sea. They will have longer range and bigger capacity than the helicopters already in the airline's fleet.

Boeing has secured British Airways as the launching customer for the Chinook and predict total sales throughout the world of up to 90 of the aircraft.

A new blind-landing system developed by British Aerospace demonstrated at the air show will make it safer for helicopters to land on oil rigs in bad weather.

The microwave aircraft digital guidance equipment is manufactured by MEL, a member of the Philips group. MEL said yesterday that it had sold the first such system to Mobil for use in the North Sea.

Mounted on an oil rig platform, the system indicates to a pilot flying up to 20 miles away how far he has to go to landing and then leads him accurately down a glide slope on to the deck even in conditions of thick fog. MEL executives predict sales to North Sea rigs worth about £25m.

United States Contractors: British Aerospace companies stand to win contracts worth \$60m to help to offset the \$242m being spent by the Government on 33 American-designed helicopters for the RAF (the Press Association reports). Boeing Vertol disclosed that contracts worth \$165m had been tendered for by British companies.

Farnborough report, page 14

Arts Council grant may go to D'Oyly Carte company

By Kenneth Gossling, Arts Reporter

The D'OYLY Carte Opera Company is engaged in "sympathetic conversations" with the Arts Council about a possible grant to ensure its future, Mr Frederic Lloyd, the company's general manager, said yesterday. It costs £20,000 a week to keep it going and losses have been running at about a tenth of that figure.

The company has just completed a successful American tour, breaking records in New York and Boston, and it is

about to begin an autumn tour of Britain, sponsored by Barclays Bank.

The bank is contributing £120,000, spread over three years and five operas are to tour this autumn: *The Mikado*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Gondoliers*, and the silver jubilee production of *Johanna*. The season opens at Wimbledon on September 25, and the tour then continues to Brighton, Oxford, Bournemouth, Bristol and Norwich, before an 11-week season at Sadler's Wells in London.

With the marriage of Caracalla to Plautilla, daughter of the powerful Plautianus, the family reached its maximum size and the arch of Septimius Severus in the forum was erected in AD 204. Thereafter a sudden wasting occurs: after the removal of Plautianus in AD 205 his namesake and brother, the emperor, was murdered and when Caracalla murdered his wife and brother their images also were erased, leaving eloquent evidence of the family's fall.

The same arch, however, has proved a useful source of information to another scholar, Professor R. Brilliant, of Columbia University, New York, in chronicling the expansion and sudden contraction of the imperial family during the reigns of Severus and Caracalla and the presentation of the emperor's image.

Shortly after his assumption of power Severus proclaimed himself retrospectively the son of Marcus Aurelius, and portraits graced to seek a family resemblance to the Antonines while presenting the emperor with his wife, Julia Domna, and their two sons, Caracalla and Geta, as the epitome of dynastic stability. On the last day of Severus and Caracalla, present and future emperor,

shake hands in front of Geta, here deliberately brought by his father, and a few years later cold-bloodedly removed from it by his brother, while elsewhere on the same monument the family is presented in the guise of the Capitoline triad, with the emperor as Jupiter.

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Orange label: A fruit importer's publicity bubble car failed to appeal to a traffic warden in St Andrew Street, Holborn, London, yesterday.

West End letter thief sought postal orders

The mystery of missing mail in the West End of London was solved when Post Office investigators caught a letter thief who had been operating for months. Mr David Hopkin, the Metropolitan Police's letter thief, was told yesterday.

They found that Zolt Hodermarsky had been watching the postmen and helping himself to freshly delivered mail, it was said.

Mr Hodermarsky admitted having the pens and the erasing fluid for use in the course of cheating. He further admitted 105 offences of stealing letters and obtaining cash by deception from post offices. He was remanded in custody.

Mr Hodermarsky, aged 45, unemployed, of Newburn Street, Kennington, London, was said to have obtained £163 over four months by removing postcards from post offices and inserting his own.

Safety proviso by objectors to plan for Scottish liquid gas terminal

From Ronald Faux, Edinburgh

Objectors to the building of a liquid gas terminal on the Firth of Forth are threatening to take the Secretary of State for Scotland to court for a second time unless they are allowed time to study a technical report on the safety of the project.

The Aberdeen and Dalgety Bay joint action group, has already forced by court action production of a full report by the Health and Safety Executive.

A plan by Shell Expro is to build a £400m plant at Moss Morran in Fife, receiving gas by pipeline from the Brent Field in the North Sea and a marine terminal for exporting liquid gas at Braefoot Bay on the Firth of Forth.

The action group said yesterday that three errors had been found in the Health and Safety Executive's report on the explosive effects of sparks caused by a radio transmitter near by.

An initial report from the group has been sent to the Secretary of State before the closing date for representation. The objectors are touring towns on the Fife coast showing documentary films on the explosive potential of liquid gas. They say their protests have been underlined by such incidents as the San Carlos camp site disaster in Spain.

The group said: "The proposal is to ship 40,000 tons of this liquid a day from Braefoot Bay, which is a little over half a mile from houses in Dalgety Bay and Aberdeen."

Meanwhile, Grampian Planning Committee is maintaining objections to the pipeline, which will link Moss Morran with the shore terminals at St Fergus, north of Peterhead.

The committee still has questions about possible hazards. They will be put to the Health and Safety Executive later this month. Protests from farmers and communities along the pipeline may result in a public inquiry and delay the start of work.

Shell Expro said yesterday that delay, particularly in the state of the plan, which would take three years to complete, would be serious. The sea pipeline to St Fergus had been finished at a cost of £125m a mile.

If Moss Morran was not ready by early 1980 production from Brent would have to be restricted, with a consequent blow to the balance of payments. Alternatively, if the gas was injected back into the field in substantial quantities, permanent damage could be done to the oil flow.

The Automobile Association said some increase on the insurance premiums was inevitable. The British Insurance Association endorsed Mr Tullberg's view that premiums must rise. "Our members had a £20m loss in 1977 on car insurance, 2.3 per cent of the premiums", it said.

Lloyd's syndicates were now handling 11 claims for every 10 made in 1975, he said, and that must be taken into account when fixing the new premium levels.

The announcement came as Lloyd's announced record profits totalling £135m for the three-year 1975 overall account taking into consideration money paid out since on business written during that year. That was an increase of £53.4m over 1974.

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Solicitors criticize justice

The scale of compensation commended by the Magistrates' Association for victims of violent crime was condemned by the British Legal Association yesterday as "penny-pinching, sub-burton justice."

Mr Stanley Best, chairman of the association, said the magistrates' guidelines, ranging from £0 for a painful graze to £100 for fractures or head injuries and £150 for scarring, were "a dangerously misleading over-valuation." They might mislead people who have the right to much greater compensation not to pursue claims.

"The suggestion of the magistrates that victims cannot afford the processes of civil law," he said, "ignores the availability of legal aid and the fact that the county courts, where litigation is less costly than in the High Court, can award damages up to £20,000. As practising solicitors, the British Legal Association deplores the legally dangerous precedent the Magistrates' Association is constantly seeking to establish by slide-rule methods."

Announcing the guidelines on Wednesday, Mr J. B. Edwards, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, said: "We are not tending to usurp the powers of the civil courts." But the cost of litigation sometimes dissuades victims from seeking redress in the civil courts and the magistrates' courts had the advantage of effective means of enforcement.

Kidnap case man in new charges

Paul Kazimierz Turmeko, 32, of no fixed address, accused of assaulting Beverly Ann, aged 18, imprisoning her against her will, stealing and carrying her away and robbing her of £53, faced three new charges at Oxford Magistrates' Court yesterday.

He was remanded in custody until next Tuesday accused of assaulting Linda Margaret Ough, and unlawfully imprisoning her against her will in a car park between August 9 and 10, and of £10 and stealing a £3,000 Austin Maxi car.

Normand Hammond, archaeological Correspondent

Septimius Severus, Emperor of Rome from AD 193 to 211, is one of the better known, if not the most attractive, faces in the imperial portrait gallery, renowned for his military prowess and, in his northernmost campaign, the result not only of a lavish display on commemorative monuments but also of a very astute use of political image-making which would do any of our present practitioners credit.

Two papers presented yesterday at the International Congress of Classical Archaeology in London reflect contrasting aspects of veran policy: the damnable heresies he left his native town, and a damnable memoriam practised against members of the family who

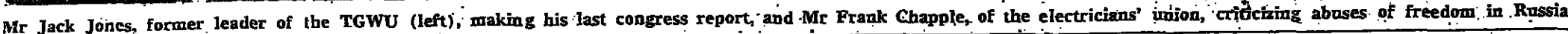
Septimius Severus was born in Leptis Magna, now in Libya, and after attaining the throne by force he began to endow it with lavish public buildings. As Mr J. M. Iron, of St David's University, Wales, Lampeter, showed, they were even less than a mixed blessing: they were on too large a scale for the state of the empire, and even though the emperor lavishly provided both materials and skilled masons the cost of upkeep would have fallen on local people. The harbour works, for instance, covered about 10 hectares

and were of little use. Indeed, the unworn state of the buildings suggests that they may never have been used, before the whole grandiose scheme was overtaken by the falling of the harbour. The local authorities would never have undertaken such massive works themselves, and when outside funds dried up, presumably at the latest with the death of Severus's son Caracalla, and the end of the dynasty, they were abandoned.

That the imperial visit was followed by some coolness is suggested in the triumphal arch erected to commemorate the event, a more or less compulsory presentation of loyalty, which was built in the most economical way possible, by reusing blocks from an earlier monument on the same site.

The same arch, however, has proved a useful source of information to another scholar, Professor R. Brilliant, of Columbia University, New York, in chronicling the expansion and sudden contraction of the imperial family during the reigns of Severus and Caracalla and the presentation of the emperor's image.

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The 'automatic scanning of file 2,500,000 fingerprints held, which

WEST EUROPE

Britain among four EEC nations to be taken to court over high taxes on wine and spirits

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Sept. 7

The European Commission has begun proceedings against Britain before the European Court of Justice for taxing wine at five times the rate levied on beer.

The Commission is invoking Article 95 of the Treaty of Rome which forbids the imposition of taxes on the products of other member states at a higher rate than those levied on similar or competing domestic products.

The Commission maintains that wine and beer are comparable because they are both produced by fermentation.

At the root of the problem is Britain's modest consumption of wine. Although the British argue that wine consumption

has increased at an annual rate of 17 per cent over the past decade, the Commission points out that Britain's wine imports are lower than those of the three Benelux countries.

Britain, the Commission argues, imposes a higher level of tax on wine than any of the Community states and since joining the Nine has reinforced the protection accorded to beer.

In 1972 wine was taxed at four times the rate levied on beer. By January 1974, the rate of taxation had actually fallen to about 1.3 but the tax on wine has since risen to about five times that levied on beer.

The Commission's initiative is not so much intended to bring relief to the British wine drinker as to help France and Italy. Britain's distillers can take

heart, however, because France, Italy and Denmark are also being taken to court for providing their own producers of spirit with the same sort of protection that Britain is accused of giving to its brewers.

The Commission claims that in the case of France the tax levied on domestically produced grape-based spirits such as cognac is at least 30 per cent lower than that imposed on imported cereal-based products like Scotch.

In Italy, imported cereal-based spirits are taxed at four to six times the rate levied on grape-based products such as brandy and grappa.

Denmark is accused of giving similar preferential treatment to its own producers of aquavit and other white spirits.

Search for accomplices of dead terrorist

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Sept. 7

West German police today searched fruitlessly for two accomplices of Willy Peter Stoll, the terrorist shot dead by police in a Düsseldorf restaurant last night.

Borders and airports were being closely watched for Christian Klar and Adelheid Schulz, who was earlier reported to have been arrested. They are known to have made several helicopter flights with Stoll over south-west Germany last month.

All three are believed to have taken part in the murders of Dr Siegfried Buback, the federal prosecutor, Dr Jürgen Ponto, head of the Dresdner Bank, and Dr Hans-Martin Schleyer, the industrialist's president.

Stoll, aged 28, was shot dead when he tried to draw a pistol on a policeman who asked for his papers.

The police said today that a tip-off from a customer led them to a cheap Chinese restaurant in Düsseldorf's red-light district. While colleagues surrounded the place, two plain clothes men went inside and saw a young man sitting alone, calmly reading a book.

Realising he had been recognized, Stoll apparently attempted to pull a pistol from a holster under his jacket. Immediately the policeman at the table fired, and since the pistol was not dropped, fired again and again. Stoll fell to the floor and died shortly afterwards.

Maastricht: A Dutch court ruled today that Knut Folkerts, a suspected terrorist, can be extradited to West Germany to face a charge of involvement in an attempt to bomb a justice department building at Karlsruhe last year.—AP.

Secretary 'betrayed' Bonn secrets for love

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn, Sept. 7

A secretary in the West German Chancellery told a Düsseldorf court today that she betrayed all the Government secrets she knew in order to marry the East German agent she loved.

Frau Dagmar Christa Kehl-Scheffler, aged 31, was one of four people to go on trial today for spying for East Germany. Accused with her in Düsseldorf were a married couple, Peter Gudrun Goslar, while in Hamburg a police inspector denied being an East German agent.

Frau Kehl-Scheffler worked in the Chancellery's Office for Relations with other West European countries and European Unity.

Frau Kehl-Scheffler told the court that after a broken marriage, she fell in love with Herbert Schröder, East Berlin, during a holiday in 1975 with her small daughter in Bulgaria. Later, in exchange for promises that she could keep seeing Herr Schröder and eventually marry him, she signed a pledge to work for the East German secret service. She married him in East Germany in 1976, but was able to see him only at intervals of about three weeks.

In Hamburg, Rolf Grunert, an inspector in the Hamburg police, denied passing the East German documents and information on internal security in West Germany.

New Lisbon leader unveils tough austerity plans

From Our Correspondent, Lisbon, Sept. 7

Senhor Alfredo Nobre da Costa, head of Portugal's new non-party Government, presented an austere programme of work and action to Parliament for approval today.

The Prime Minister, who was sworn in with his 29-member Cabinet by President Eanes, this morning said Portugal's economy was approaching breakdown in some sectors. Even harsher austerity mea-

asures might be needed if production did not improve.

Its acceptance will depend on the attitude of Dr. Mario Soares's Socialist Party, which will meet this weekend to decide its response. It is likely that the new Government will mean that the Socialist Party will be a caretaker administration until early elections.

Today his Government came under heavy attack from spokesmen for most of the leading parties.

Lost whale spurns aid of psychologist

Cherbourg, Sept. 7.—A whale that lost its sense of direction and entered Cherbourg's military harbour paralysed port activities for the third day today despite the efforts of a whale psychologist to coax it out to sea, a French Navy spokesman said.

The promiscuous whale—a black variety of toothed whale related to dolphins—weighs over 1,020lb and measures 13ft. It is normally a resident of the cold waters of the north Atlantic. It entered the port on Tuesday and has refused to go near the exit ever since.

All shipping was immediately suspended for fear that the whale would be hurt by a propeller.

According to the spokesman, the psychologist said the whale had to be frightened into getting back its sense of direction and the Navy promptly fired blank training grenades in an attempt to achieve this.

The whale, whose slick black back can occasionally be seen, was apparently annoyed by explosions and the Navy is now contemplating the killing of the animal unless it leaves soon. Killing it is considered a better alternative than letting it die of starvation.

Earlier this summer, another whale ventured into the Baltic and settled there for months, living off herring. Eventually the Swedish Board of Conservation lost track of its movements.—UPI.



Baron Empain: back to control his industrial group.

Baron upset by attitude of the police

From Ian Murray, Paris, Sept. 7

Baron Edouard-Jean Empain invited the press to his offices in Paris this morning to talk about his kidnapping and how it had changed his life.

The baron, who spent 63 days hooded and chained to a bed after he was seized in January, showed he had recovered his morale despite some bitter discoveries when he was released.

The first thing he wanted to make clear was that he was once again firmly in control of the giant industrial group of which he is the principal shareholder.

"Schneider cannot be managed without the Baron Empain, therefore it will be managed with him," he said confidently.

The baron spoke warmly about his "new life" after a year ago, he said, if he had called a press conference, he would have had a stage fright.

"Now I am relaxed. I know that what is important is not what the people think when they

see you on television or hear you on the radio. What is important is the ability to get up in the morning without being chained, to be able to take a shower and have breakfast and to take your time. I am sure that if an actor relived my experience he would become a much better person. The important things are the material ones in life."

He described how his kidnappers had cut off the end of his finger and how he had cared for the wound himself.

Nevertheless, he felt a great deal of sympathy for his kidnappers. "They are imprisoned now," he said, "and I know that captivity is unbearable. . . . Do not hold anything against my kidnappers any more, and I would go so far as to excuse them."

The baron had some bitter memories after his release. "I needed to build up my strength again and I deplored the behaviour of part of my entourage after my liberation," he said.

"As far as the police are concerned, I owe them my life but I regret their attitude. When they searched for clues, I deplored the fact that they did not keep what they had discovered to themselves, but instead showed the discoveries to some of my relations."

Party expels M Fabre

Paris, Sept. 7.—M Robert Fabre, former leader of the small opposition Left Radical movement, was expelled from the party today because he accepted an invitation from President Giscard d'Estaing to join a study of unemployment.

The party said its executive had unanimously asked M

Fabre to turn down the invitation. By his acceptance, he has placed himself outside the party.

M Fabre was leader of the Radicals, the smallest component of the Union of the Left, led by the Socialists and Communists, when it was defeated in the elections last March.—AP.

OVERSEAS

West Bank's Arabs fear Israeli plan for region

From Michael Knipe, Jerusalem, Sept. 7

Arabs living on the occupied West Bank believe that the Camp David summit will end in failure and that Israel intends to impose its plan on the area regardless of the wishes of the people.

Mr. Karim Khalaf, the mayor of Ramallah, maintained that within a few months there will be moves to form an autonomous Arab administration. To this end, he said in an interview with *The Times*, the Israeli authorities are attempting to replace their own officials holding senior administrative positions by West Bank Arabs.

But a spokesman for the military government said he knew of no such moves and verified that no senior Israeli officials in the administration had been replaced.

The Israeli military authorities have recently been attempting to trace Arab political activities, being responsible for intimidating Arabs from taking top administrative posts.

Mr. Khalaf says that the Israelis are trying to replace the Arab mayors, who look to the Palestinian Liberation Organization for political leadership, possibly with traditional leaders who may be more prepared to collaborate.

Reflecting the general view, the West Bank Mr. Khalaf dismissed the Camp David summit as a complete waste of time. President Sadat's efforts were doomed to failure, he said.

The Israelis would not evacuate an inch of territory unless they were forced to do so, he said. The United States had no sincere intention of forcing them.

Mr. Moshe Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister, recently received a number of West Bank residents in an apparent effort to gauge their attitudes to the autonomy proposals.

The plan, as it stands, proposes the withdrawal of the Israeli military government and the election of an 11-member administrative council, which would be based in Jerusalem and would handle all the area's affairs except security and public order which would remain the responsibility of Israel.



Mr Sadat and Mr Begin meet, with Mr Carter as host, outside the American President's lodge at Camp David.

Syria prepares to make peace with Mr Sadat

From Robert Fisk, Damascus, Sept. 7

Syria is preparing the way for President Sadat to return to the ranks of his Arab neighbours if the Middle East peace talks are to produce any tangible result.

The Egyptian leader would be expected under these circumstances to break off every diplomatic link with the Israelis and to promise that never again would he negotiate unilaterally with them.

Since Mr Sadat has been revealed as a traitor to Damascus ever since his visit to Jerusalem last year, such an accommodation by Syria may appear surprising.

But, as one Government official put it here, "if Sadat cuts all his contacts with the enemy then we cannot ignore Arab solidarity."

The explanation of course, is fairly simple. Syria believes Egypt cannot on its own represent the whole Arab world and this assumption coupled with Syria's long-standing contempt for Egypt's habit of taking unexpected unilateral initiatives,

has been the base for the constant and sometimes personal attacks made on Mr Sadat by Syrian officials and by the Damascus press.

But the equation works in reverse. Without Egypt, the states which have most bitterly criticized the Sadat initiative would not be able to persuade the world that their voice truly represents Arab aspirations.

Whatever the results of Camp David, President Sadat cannot be expected to humble himself before the four nations who have most closely organized opposition to his initiative.

Syria, Algeria, South Yemen and Libya. Indeed, the last thing Mr Sadat will do if the summit produces further deadlock is to prostrate himself before the unconditionalism of Colonel Gaddafi of Libya.

Nonetheless, there are ways of cementing a new alliance between Syria and Egypt without insisting that Mr Sadat lose face. A strong attack on the Israeli Government by the Egyptian leader together with the cessation of all and every contact that exists between

Cairo and Jerusalem, could start this process.

Syrian officials, for instance, viewed with satisfaction Mr Sadat's decision to withdraw the Egyptian delegation from Jerusalem earlier this year after Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, spoke at the United Nations as Egyptian Foreign Minister at a formal dinner.

The fact that the Egyptians and Israelis sat down again within months, confused this issue and Syria is now watching Mr Sadat's every public decision with angry fascination.

Despite the importance which Syria attaches to the Geneva peace conference, it is believed that President Assad now favours the United Nations as the forum in which the future of the Middle East should be debated. A shrewd suspicion of Soviet intentions in the area and a conviction that the Israelis are losing their verbal battles in the United Nations General Assembly has persuaded the Syrians to talk more and more of the United Nations.

They also regard Dr Kuri Walid, the United Nations Secretary-General, as a foe of Syria.

All this, however, is a long way off and for the present Syria's public face remains inflexible as ever towards Mr Sadat. "After all he has done up to now," said a Syrian official, "can Sadat cut every contact with the Israelis in a day and a night? He must denounce everything he has done."

Syria's position among Arab states opposing Mr Sadat also has several weak points. For a start, Iraq will not take part in the so-called Damascus "readiness" conference later this month in which Algeria, Syria, South Yemen and Libya, as well as the Palestinian, will virtually condemn President Sadat.

Secondly, opposition to President Assad within Syria continues. Thirdly, and most serious, Syria's longstanding desire in Lebanon have turned into a series of regular battles between right-wing militias and Syrian troops.

Nkomo men dig in for air strikes

From Lawrence Pinak, Lusaka, Sept. 7

Mr Joshua Nkomo's Rhodesian nationalist guerrillas today dug in for a Rhodesian air strike against their Zambian positions expected in a Rhodesian attack on an Air Rhodesia airliner at the weekend.

Nationalist sources said intelligence reports from inside Rhodesia indicated that the Salisbury regime would order a strike not against military bases along the border, but on refugee camps in the vicinity of the capital.

There are several camps housing women and children scattered around Lusaka, but the area also contains training and transit camps for guerrillas.

Mr Nkomo, the leader of the Zimbabwe African People's Organization (Zapu), said here that any assault against camps near Lusaka would be an attack on Zambia itself.

The authorities here would not comment but President Kaunda is to hold an early morning news conference tomorrow.

Mr Nkomo and his top aides were clearly worried today, and showed no signs of the high spirits they were in earlier this week, when they were convinced that they were nearing the end of their long campaign to end minority rule.

The Zapu leader predicted a new escalation of the war coupled with a crackdown on his organization's activities inside Rhodesia.

Both Mr Nkomo's Zapu and Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (Zimbabwe African National Union) have operated freely inside Rhodesia since the March 31 internal settlement, although the Mugabe branch operates under the name "People's Movement".

Zapu sources expected their internal wing to be outlawed once again, and its representatives, including First Vice-President Joshua Chimpeno, to be jailed.

The pessimism by the nationalists comes as a direct result of Sunday's crash of the Air Rhodesia Viscount filled with holidaymakers, and the subsequent slaughter of 10 survivors on the ground. Mr Nkomo claimed his men were responsible for downing the airliner but denied that they killed the survivors.

Whatever the truth, it has hardened white attitudes towards Mr Nkomo and made it almost impossible for Mr Ian Smith to continue negotiations to bring him into a peaceful settlement.

Diplomats here were taking the threat of a Rhodesian raid seriously, but believed the Rhodesians would strike at military camps near the border, as in the past.

Salisbury has staged at least three guerrilla guerrilla attacks on the border, particularly in the Gwembu valley of Zambia, killing at least 1500 guerrillas. Troops have never ventured deeper than about 20 miles into Zambian territory.

Mr Nkomo claims that the Rhodesians are striking at the refugee camps this time because they were "bruised" in past raids on military staging areas.

Kaunda rival will be barred from Zambian poll by constitutional changes

From Our Correspondent, Lusaka, Sept. 7

Zambia's ruling United National Independence Party (Unip) will this weekend pass amendments to its constitution which will make impossible for Mr Simon Kapwepwe, or any other presidential candidate, to challenge President Kaunda against the wishes of the party hierarchy.

The changes in the election rules, which will be rubber-stamped at the Unip general conference, will result in the President being chosen by 600 people instead of 6,000, as is the case now.

Under the amendments, the party's national council will name the candidate, who will then run, unopposed, in the general election later this year after being formally approved by the conference. Dr Kaunda has already been named sole candidate by the council.

The amendments also stipulate that all aspirants must have been members of Unip for five years. Dr Kaunda's criminal record, and must be "disciplined".

Mr Kapwepwe, who it is believed would pose a serious threat to President Kaunda in an open election, spent a year in prison in 1972 after his charge of attempted murder. He has been a member of Unip for only a year, and is considered something less than disciplined.

Mr Kapwepwe has repeatedly attacked the present party and Government leadership, criticized Dr Kaunda's political philosophy of "humanism" for some time.

Thirteen to be executed in Uganda include officer

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, Sept. 7

President Amin has signed death warrants for 13 Ugandans sentenced by the Uganda High Court. They had all been charged with murder, armed robbery, and they included a lieutenant-colonel and a corporal.

In another eight cases, President Amin commuted death sentences to imprisonment.

Uganda radio quoted a Government spokesman as expressing concern about a wave of murders and robberies which it was determined to stamp out.

At Masaka, 80 miles west of Kampala, 30 Indian Christians have appeared in court charged with contravening President Amin's recent order banning all Protestants, apart from the Anglican Church.

The group were said to have been members of the full Gospel Mission operating under the name of the Glad Tidings Church, which was founded in Uganda several years ago by a missionary group from the United States.

The leader has disappeared after being released on bail, the radio added.

Rhodesian civil servants set terms for staying

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Rhodesian civil servants are ready to stay on in Rhodesia under an African government, provided they are given certain guarantees.

A representative of the Rhodesian Public Services Association, Mr Colin Rees, is in London to explain their views and will see Mr Ted Rowlands, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, next week.

"We are very glad that our position appears to be taken seriously," Mr Rees said yesterday.

Britons held in Italy after bride's death fall

Misano Adriatico, Sept. 7.—Seven young Britons are being held by Italian police after a fight in a rented flat ended with a honeymoon bride falling naked to her death from a ninth-floor balcony.

Mrs Sylvia Palmer, aged 22, from Rathcoole, near Belfast, was impaled on railings below the flat. Police said they were investigating whether she slipped or was pushed.

Mrs Palmer and her husband of nine days were sharing the ninth-floor flat in an apartment block with another Northern Ireland couple. Four men from Newcastle had a flat in the same block and an argument broke out between the two couples in the small hours yesterday.

The ninth-floor flat was devastated during the argument, police added, saying they found a knife with bloodstains on it.

The six men involved in the argument were being held in Rimini jail and a woman was taken to Forlì jail. The case is now in the hands of magistrates who will decide whether charges are to be brought.—Reuter.

Banning order on black leader in South Africa

Johannesburg, Sept. 7.—Dr Nkomo, chairman of the South African Communist Party, has been banned from attending public meetings until the end of September.

The banning order, signed by Mr James Kruger, the South African Justice Minister, was served on Dr Nkomo in the black Johannesburg township of Soweto yesterday, shortly before he was due to address a meeting at the Witwatersrand on politics and education.

He was detained in last October's government clampdown on the political and organizations. He was released in March.

After making a speech during the anniversary of the Soweto riots in June, Dr Nkomo said police had threatened him with permanent detention if he continued addressing public meetings. Police denied they had made such threats.

The banning order is unusual in that it lasts only a month and does not restrict him to the Johannesburg area.

The Committee of Ten is opposed to the Government-backed community council in the township and has called for autonomy for Soweto.—Reuter.

Americans and Russians edge towards arms deal

From Our Correspondent, Geneva, Sept. 7

The American and Russian delegations resumed negotiations here today after a three-week recess. For a new strategic arms limitation treaty (SALT).

The heads of delegations, Mr Ralph Earle from the United States, and Mr Vladimir Semenov, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, were not present. Both are in Moscow where Mr Paul Warnke, head of the American Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, is having discussions with senior Russian officials, including Mr Gromyko, the Foreign Minister.

The Americans now regard the negotiations as being "in the home stretch" with good prospects of agreement on a new treaty by the end of the year.

Today's meeting was the 25th since negotiations began. They say agreement has been reached on verification measures and on new totals for different categories of strategic nuclear missiles.

Restrictions being negotiated on new types of missiles and improvement of existing ones are said to include provisions to allow both superpowers to develop whatever they feel necessary for protecting their strategic nuclear forces from a knock-out blow.

Mrs Marcos 'undeserving'

Manila, Sept. 7.—Mrs Imelda Marcos, wife of President Marcos, was today accused of being undeserving of her nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize.

"Some people must be dreaming," she said of Tuesday's announcement that four prominent Filipinos led by the Chief Justice had put her name forward.—Reuter.

Guerrillas seize Managua radio

Managua, Sept. 7.—Two guerrillas seized a radio station here today and broadcast an appeal to Nicaraguans to arm themselves and overthrow President Somoza.

A spokesman said a man and a woman identifying themselves as Salvador Nolasco, Liberation Front member, overpowered studio employees, transmitted the tape and fled.

Korchnoi's saffron-robed friends see him draw

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, Baguio, Philippines, Sept. 7

After a four-day break in the world championship match we saw a hard and exciting game today, but it was preceded by a curious and rather sinister incident.

Two American followers of the Indian Ananda Marga sect, who were sentenced to 17 years' imprisonment, on a charge of attempted murder of an Indian diplomat in February and who are on bail pending an appeal, came to the convention centre to watch the game.

They had made the acquaintance of Viktor Korchnoi during his recent visit to Manila and had given him some psychological help by advocating various yoga methods.

One of the Americans, Miss Victoria Sheppard, was admitted, but the second, Mr Stephen Michael Dwyer, was at first refused entry. He was finally allowed in at the insistence of Mrs Perra Louwerik, Korchnoi's manager.

The Americans, wearing saffron robes, assumed lotus-like sitting positions, as though meditating across the aisle from Dr Vladimir Znosko-Borok, the Soviet chess psychologist.

When play started, Korchnoi chose a variation of the Cata-

lan System as white. He got little or nothing out of the opening and position, in the middle game looked, if anything, better for black.

Both players got rather short of time and after 32 moves Korchnoi had 10 minutes left and Karpov 11 for eight moves.

For once it was Korchnoi who played better under time pressure. Whether this was due to the influence of yoga or simply because Karpov was not used to getting into time trouble I cannot tell.

On the thirty-ninth move when a repetition of moves was about to occur the players slowly agreed to a draw. Thus Karpov still leads 4-1.

Nineteenth game. White: Korchnoi, black: Karpov. Catalan system.

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1 P-C4 P-K3 | 21 Q-B R-P |
| 2 P-K3 P-C3 | 22 B-K3 P-B4 |
| 3 B-K3 P-B2 | 23 B-K3 P-B2 |
| 4 P-C3 P-B2 | 24 B-K3 P-B2 |
| 5 Q-K3 Q-K3 | 25 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 6 P-B2 P-B2 | 26 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 7 P-B2 P-B2 | 27 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 8 P-B2 P-B2 | 28 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 9 P-B2 P-B2 | 29 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 10 P-B2 P-B2 | 30 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 11 P-B2 P-B2 | 31 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 12 P-B2 P-B2 | 32 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 13 P-B2 P-B2 | 33 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 14 P-B2 P-B2 | 34 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 15 P-B2 P-B2 | 35 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 16 P-B2 P-B2 | 36 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 17 P-B2 P-B2 | 37 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 18 P-B2 P-B2 | 38 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 19 P-B2 P-B2 | 39 R-K3 P-B2 |
| 20 P-B2 P-B2 | 40 R-K3 P-B2 |

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OVERSEAS

Speculation over swop of prisoners after mild Moscow sentence

Moscow, Sept 7.—Mr Francis Crawford, an American businessman, was given a suspended five-year labour camp sentence by Moscow city court after being found guilty of black market currency dealings.

The sentence, mild compared to the possible maximum of 10 years, was announced in speculation here that a det-American deal on prisoner releases is now going into effect.

Mr Crawford, aged 37, Moscow representative of International Harvester Company, had been proved his innocence "without a shadow of a doubt" and was not satisfied with the verdict.

In the event, Mr Crawford had not been expelled from the United States as soon as he received an exit visa. He is believed to have booked a flight tomorrow.

The harshest sentence was used on one of Mr Crawford's Russian co-defendants, Vladimir Kiselev, who was given five years in a labour camp with confiscation of his personal property.

Mr Kiselev, aged 40, a factory checker, testified that he had paid 20,000 roubles to Mr Crawford for just over \$8,000 (\$4,190). He was also found

guilty of selling the American six antique samovars for dollars.

Mr Kiselev's wife, Lyudmila, aged 25, was given a five-year suspended sentence.

A four-year labour camp sentence was passed on Alla Solov'yov, aged 23, a cashier. She admitted changing money with the Kiselevs and making black market sales of fur hats.

Giving his verdict this morning Judge Lev Mironov said there was "full confirmation" of Mr Crawford's guilt. But the court took into account that it was his first offence and that he was engaged in "socially useful activity".

The suspended sentence on Mr Crawford cleared the way for some similar arrangement involving two Soviet United Nations officials awaiting trial in the United States on espionage charges.

They were arrested not long before Mr Crawford. American officials saw Mr Crawford's arrest as direct retaliation.

According to unconfirmed reports quoted by Western diplomats here, his effective release might be a prelude to the freeing of the two Russians in possible exchange for Anatoly Shcharovsky, the jailed dissident and the convicted spy Anatoly Filatov.

Dismissing: Viktor Rukhladze, a member of the Georgian Helsinki monitoring group, was today given a suspended two-and-a-half-year labour camp sentence and two years in internal exile by a 100-man court after admitting anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda, Tass said.—Reuter.

Romania's Health Minister goes in further reshuffle

Vienna, Sept 7.—Mr Nicolae Nicolaescu, the Romanian Health Minister, was dropped from the Government today in the third ministerial reshuffle in Romania in three weeks.

Informed observers saw no obvious connexion between the latest change and a security crackdown believed to have cost two other ministers their jobs.

General Teodor Coman, the interior Minister, was dismissed two days ago, apparently the victim of a purge after the defection to the United States in July one of his deputies, Lieutenant-General Ion Pacepa, top security officer.

Mr Nicolae Dotaru, the tourism Minister, a former general in the security services, was sacked in mid-August. Bucharest sources said last week that 12 senior officials were under arrest after the Pacepa defection.

The health minister's removal was reported briefly by the official Agerpres news agency without explanation. No successor was named.

Mr Nicolaescu, 57, had held the portfolio for two years. A doctor, he was previously secretary-general of the ministry. Sources in Bucharest said he had no known connexion with the security services, but might have been involved personally with General Pacepa.

Last week Mr Nicolaescu was criticised in the Romanian magazine *Flacara* over his role in a controversy affecting a doctor who claims to have discovered a cure for cancer.

The Pacepa defection led to a serious upheaval in Bucharest, and it was possible that President Ceausescu was in the process of a government reshuffle which could extend beyond the security services, sources said.—Reuter.



Teheran ban defied: Demonstrators in the Iranian capital facing troops armed with sub-machine-guns in a march yesterday held in defiance of a Government ban. The demonstrators, estimated to number more than 100,000 brought the city to a halt (Tony Allaway writes from Teheran.)

The city was also paralysed by a total closure of the bazaar and shops, from the big department stores in the centre to the small corner

shops of the outlying districts. Similar strikes were reported in provincial cities.

The Teheran protest march, the largest demonstration in the city in 15 years, lasted all day but passed off peacefully, as did a similar demonstration on Monday.

The Government had earlier said that security forces would stop any illegal demonstrations but

it appeared that after some rethinking it had been decided to avoid a confrontation.

There were indications of a great deal of planning behind the march, even though religious and opposition groups denied on Wednesday that one was being organized. The general strike was the first successful strike to be called in the city. Other recent strike calls have had little effect.

Country's annual monsoon scourge claims 898 lives

Indian Army to aid flood victims

From Richard Wigg, Delhi, Sept 7

One in every 20 among India's population of six hundred million is now a flood victim, according to Government estimates made public today.

Since the onset of the annual monsoon scourge over northern India in late June there have been 898 known deaths more than 46,000 villages in 11 states and in Delhi's union territory have been inundated. 600,000 homes have been swept away or badly damaged and 4,000 head of cattle lost.

The first official estimate of the damage has been put at \$30m and the total area flooded at 8.78 million hectares. Scattered crops covering 3.5 million hectares have been lost. The number of Indians affected by the monsoons exceeds thirty-two million.

The Government has already sanctioned immediate flood relief of \$33m, to come out of the annual plan, which would presumably have gone otherwise on long-term projects.

The figures were issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation after central Government teams had returned from on-the-spot surveys in the worst affected states like West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh.

The official estimates are

almost certain to prove on the conservative side, starting with the death toll. The worst affected state was Uttar Pradesh, the biggest in India. More than a million people are estimated to be flood victims in West Bengal and there are unofficial reports of dysentery and cholera there.

The crisis situation today engulfed Allahabad, where the Army was ordered by Mr Jagjivan Ram, the Defence Minister, who was on the spot, to divert all its resources to saving an embankment originally built for the Emperor Akbar in the Middle Ages.

The Ganges is now flowing 9ft above the danger mark in Allahabad and many low-lying parts of the city, which is also affected by the Yamuna river, are already waterlogged.

From Old Delhi's Red Fort the flooded Yamuna river merges indistinguishably into a sheet of water stretching with-out interruption for about five miles to the east and eight to 10 miles to the north. This is the extent of this year's monsoon flooding around the Indian capital.

The gardens of the world-famous Taj Mahal monument at Agra, south of Delhi, are likely to be submerged during the night, a spokesman for the Historic Monuments Department told All India radio. But he denied that there was any

threat to the building. Flying over the area today in an Indian aircraft I saw the staggering extent of the devastation but also unmistakable signs that the flood waters are receding.

People in the urban "enclaves" were reviving too, but the most touching sights were as we flew northwards over the rural areas of Delhi's 575-square mile union territory. There were many isolated small peasant homes still wholly submerged, villages where families squatted on the rooftops, waiting hopefully for the Indian Air Force to drop them food. The villagers have been living off whatever they managed to salvage when the torrential rains first struck last Friday.

Cattle are very rare as many farmers cannily drove their precious animals southwards, even into the residential suburbs of Delhi a week or more before last week's rains, but I saw some forlorn little groups on some islets. Buildings as tall as granaries are half submerged.

As we came closer to Old Delhi we flew over block after block of houses, all completely abandoned, testimony that though sharp political controversy has begun over whether the Delhi authorities did enough, a massive evacuation occurred and tens of thousands of people were somehow saved from the waters.

Carter veto of arms Bill wins Congress support

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, Sept 7

President Carter today won the support of Congress for his veto of a \$36,900m (£19,000m) arms procurement Bill by an encouragingly wide margin.

After a short debate in the House of Representatives, 286 members supported the veto and only 191 opposed it. For a presidential veto to be overruled both Houses have to vote against it by two-thirds majorities. Today's vote makes consideration of the veto in the Senate unnecessary and the draft Bill will now return to committees of both Houses for redrafting.

In what was widely seen as a move to assert his authority

over Congress, Mr Carter announced last month that he would veto the version of the Bill approved by both Houses. He complained that it channelled funds away from urgently needed military equipment into the construction of an unwanted and expensive nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.

The President's Democratic supporters in the Lower House campaigned actively on his behalf, together with senior members of the Administration and the armed forces.

Despite today's victory it is by no means certain that Congress will approve all the elements requested by Mr Carter and his defence advisers in place of the aircraft carrier.

Tunisians free three union leaders on bail

Tunis, Sept 7.—Twenty-five trade unionists, including the leaders of three big unions have been released on bail pending trial on charges related to the general strike last January; the Government daily newspaper *La Presse* reported today.

Hungary puts its women back behind the wheel

From Our Correspondent, Vienna, Sept 7

Hungary is to revive a woman's right to drive a bus after almost 30 years during which only men were allowed behind the wheel.

There is a severe shortage of bus drivers, particularly in Budapest.

Experts say two shots in Dallas came from behind

From David Cross, Washington, Sept 7

A panel of distinguished medical experts has come to the uncontroversial conclusion that President Kennedy died as a result of two gunshot wounds to the brain, back and neck areas of the body, a Congressional hearing was told today.

With the aid of diagrams, drawings and other evidence, Dr Michael Baden, chief forensic pathologist for New York City, traced in minute detail the paths of the bullets through the bodies of the president and Mr John Connally, a former Governor of Texas, who was travelling in the same car as the late president on November 22, 1963—the day of the assassination in Dallas, Texas.

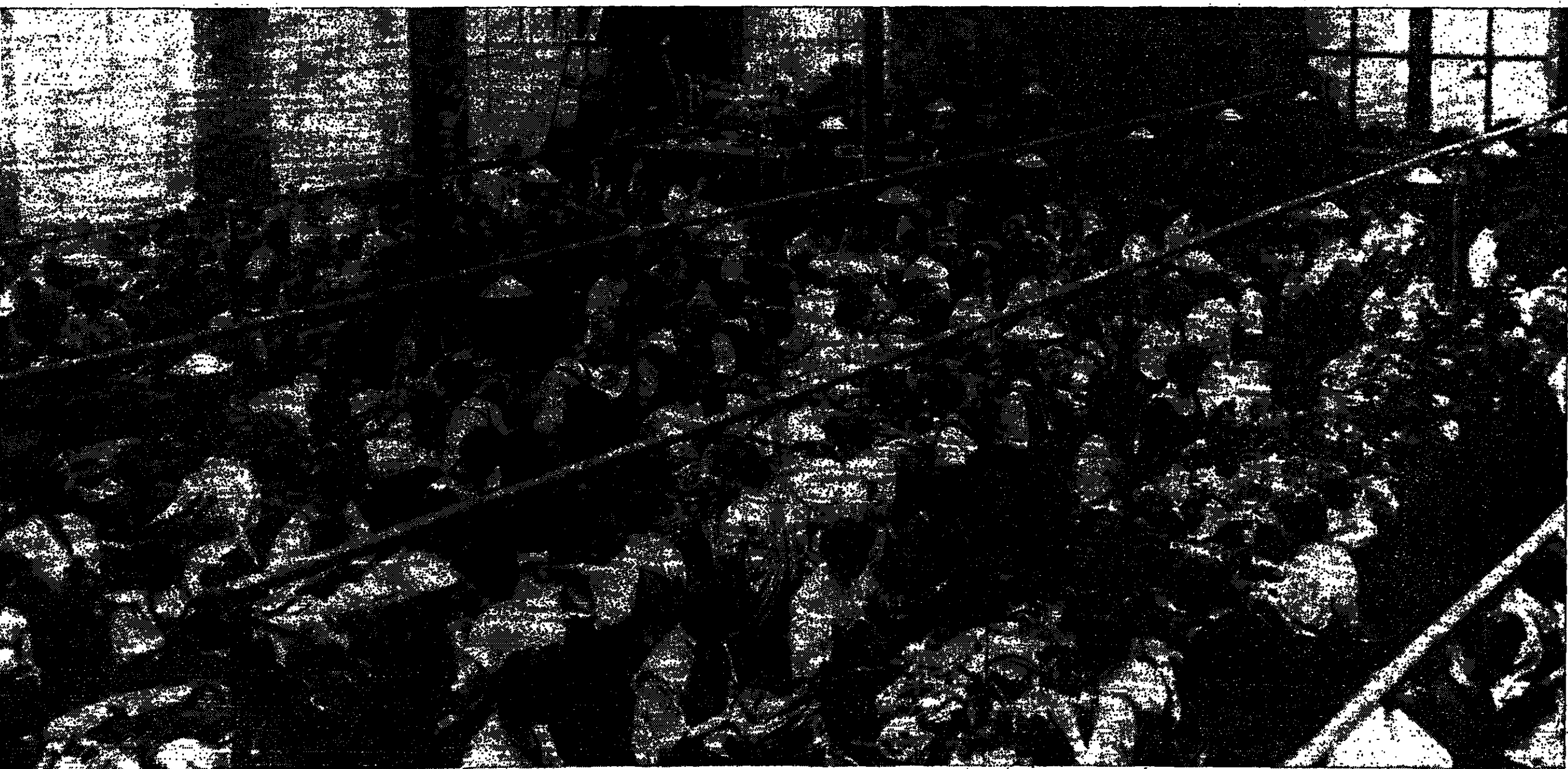
Dr Baden's evidence, before a televised hearing of the assassination committee of the House of Representatives, also suggested that the bullet which injured Mr Connally had previously passed through the president. Both shots appeared to have been fired from behind.

All these findings based on forensic photographs and various articles now in the national archives in Washington, including the cloths worn by the President and a bullet found lying on the stretcher which carried him to hospital confirm the main conclusions of the Warren Commission set up to investigate the assassination.

The current round of public Congressional hearings, which are due to last until the end of the month, are designed to clarify various contradictory theories about the killing which have emerged in recent years.

Opening today's hearing, Professor Robert Blakey, the committee's chief counsel, said the handling of the late president's medical treatment and autopsy had given rise to more questions than any other single factor. This was because doctors who had examined the body immediately after the shooting had given conflicting accounts of their findings.

Professor Blakey also disclosed that President Kennedy's brain, which had been removed from his body during the autopsy, had since disappeared. A spokesman for the late President's family believed the material which was housed in a metal container had been destroyed, perhaps because of fears by his relatives that it might be put on public exhibition, he said.



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CAR BUYER'S GUIDE

Motoring

Way picnic
eas make
e best breaks

Prior committee's report on way service areas is well worth a read, though I understand that an annual dispute at the Stationery Office makes it unlikely that copies will be available for public consumption. A pity, for few Government departments have been so lively and responsive.

It is difficult to disagree with most of the committee's views, certainly the criticisms of poor food and service. The main conclusion is that the Government is prepared to take a reasonable profit (and few at the moment do), there can be little for poor standards.

The case for service areas is basic: a road safety one. Motorways are, in fact, the safest type of road; they carry 9 per cent of traffic and account for only 13 per cent of accidents. So the provision of services like toilets, food and petrol is an arrangement to motorists not to the motorway for less safe roads.

The second part of the safety argument is that drivers need periodic rest for refreshment and to maintain their concentration and they are more likely to take them if facilities are within easy reach. If the only reason for a break was driving off the road, many motorists would probably choose to carry on.

The provision of service areas has been overdue. Official policy put them roughly every 25 miles, though there are bigger gaps. Only one of 56 miles on the M4 west of London. 25 miles is about the average. Now this is the equivalent, at the road speed limit, of just 20 minutes' driving. Do people really stop that often?

The obligation on service area operators to provide petrol 24 hours a day is admirable in theory and an admirable thing to do, but it is short of fuel when there is no one to pump. On the other hand, there is no made today with a range of less than 200 miles between fill-ups so it is possible to avoid motorway courts where, as the Prior committee reminds us, petrol is 5p a gallon or more than the national average. I can use motorways more than I can remember 11 last bought petrol on one.

The same argument, it should be said, could be made for the motorway food. Surely, though motorway food is a criticism, those who eat it regularly are satisfied. According to a small Opinion Poll conducted on the M4, 41 per cent thought the food was enjoyable or very enjoyable, 39 per cent found it acceptable, 19 per cent deeming it not enjoyable and only 5 per cent considered it unpleasant. The argument for a hot meal is a very long journey, but on the M4 I would prefer not to risk the chips and the like, and take a picnic. The trouble is, if you carry your own food in a car, you more or less have to eat it.

It would like to see motorway picnic

German efficiency—the Opel Rekord Estate.

areas on the German model, with tables and benches in the open. Surely it is better to spend one's break from driving inhaling fresh air than the smell of soggy chips and overcooked peas? The Prior report makes the provision of picnic areas one of its recommendations: unfortunately the only such site so far provided in Britain, at Brent Knoll on the M5 near Weston-super-Mare, has been despoiled by vandals and litter louts.

My main reservation about the Prior report is that it refuses to name names. It is all very well saying that you can tell what a service area is going to be like by knowing who runs it, but that is little help unless the good and the bad operators are identified. I am sure, however, that readers will have their own ideas and I shall be pleased to hear them.

Road test: Opel Rekord Estate

Opel, the German arm of General Motors, makes mechanically conventional cars which, I suspect, win few awards for styling. But you do not buy an Opel for technical innovation or an eye-catching shape: what you do expect, and get, is sturdy, sensible engineering and efficient use of the car's space. The Opel Rekord estate is a two-door car, but it is a thoroughly competent and efficient vehicle that does almost everything well and, except in relatively minor respects, is hard to criticise. Big French estates like the Citroën CX and Peugeot 504 may offer more flair, but the Opel is a strong argument for choosing what motor industry jargon likes to call a well-proven design.

The estate belongs to the revised Rekord range launched in Britain at the beginning of the year. In looks, it is quite different from the previous car, particularly in its smooth, aerodynamic nose. Under the skin, the engine is pleasant and the four-wheel drive, live axle back suspension—but with many worthwhile refinements. There is more room inside and the estate's load space is said to be up to 30 per cent.

I tested the car in realistic conditions, trudging in my much-luggage as it would take and then loading to the family (myself, my wife and two children). Under such a burden the humble 1979cc 100 hp engine might have been expected to huff and groan, but I can report that it responded impressively.

I am not talking of sports car acceleration, quite irrelevant in such a context, but of the ability to pull away smoothly, to have enough in reserve for sensible overtaking and to cruise unfussed on the motorway. Unless driven exceptionally hard, the engine is pleasant and quiet and there is little wind noise. I was also gratified to average as much as 30 miles to the gallon.

Good roadholding has become an Opel trademark and the Rekord main-

tains this tradition, making the estate a reassuringly safe car to drive. The steering is precise and, considering the load it carried, not unduly heavy; the brakes are excellent. The gearbox, otherwise good, suffered from stickiness in first, and I found the clutch rather fierce.

Surprisingly, since on paper the suspension is identical, the estate had a softer ride than the Rekord saloon. Personally I welcomed this—certainly the car coped well with rough surfaces—but my passengers, especially when sitting in the back, complained of wallow on corners. The seats are well shaped, but we would have preferred cloth to the standard vinyl which can get unpleasantly hot and sticky.

Passenger space is generous and there can be no argument that the Rekord is anything but a full five-seater. The luggage area is wide, reasonably high (although front-wheel drive would probably allow the floor to be lowered) and apart from a small intrusion from the wheel arches, unobstructed. The rear seat can, of course, be folded forward if extra space is required. One black-finished estate, the testate was a considerable effort to fit in the car. The car has most of the desirable equipment as standard, including halogen headlights, laminated windscreen and a wash/wipe for the rear screen. At £5,053, the Rekord seems expensive against competitors like the Peugeot 504, but it could be a sound investment.

Automatic credit
In a recent article I looked forward to the day when petrol could be bought automatically by the insertion of a credit card into an appropriate slot. I was out of date: a filling station run by the Co-operative Society in Bristol has been offering this facility to card-holding customers for the past three years.

The equipment, made and patented for a Somerset firm, Dial-a-Fleet, is simple and foolproof. The motorist inserts his card and then dials a number to start the pump. The number is not printed on the card as a safety precaution if the card is lost it can not be used by anyone else. A computer records the amount of petrol bought, with the date, and the customer gets his invoice at the end of the month.

Though the Bristol filling station is unusual in offering this convenience card petrol to the public, Mr John Walkley, chairman of Dial-a-Fleet, says his equipment is widely used by bodies like the Metropolitan Police, water authorities and county councils, as well as commercial companies.

He naturally looks forward to a rapid expansion of the system on motorway forecourts, although since it costs £2,100 to convert a pump, the filling station operator would have to sell a lot of gallons to credit card customers to cover his investment. The equipment can also be used for automatic car washes.

Peter Waymark

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1977 533i Auto, Topaz metallic brown with tan interior, 1/2 glass, alloy wheels, electric windows.

1978 320i 6-cylinder, Mini green with cloth interior, 1/2 glass, alloy wheels, electric windows, stereo/radio.

1977 528i, Ruby red, cloth interior, 1/2 glass, alloy wheels.

1978 Model 320i 6-cylinder, Olive metallic green, beige cloth interior, 1/2 glass, alloy wheels, manual sunroof.

1977 516i, Chamomile, White cloth interior, alloy wheels, rear wash/wipe.

1978 1602i, Inca orange, 1/2 glass, alloy wheels.

1977 518i, Topaz metallic brown, beige cloth interior, 1/2 glass, alloy wheels.

1978 Model 528i, Bordeaux red, beige cloth interior, 1/2 glass, alloy wheels.

1977 516i, Chamomile, White cloth interior, alloy wheels, rear wash/wipe.

All the above cars are available on lease.

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Stopping the show at Farnborough

Every self-respecting visitor to the Farnborough Air Show this week will be clutching next to his or her sandwich box a copy of the X-Rite Aerobics Aerobic System. This splendid manual, compiled by a Colonel Aresti of the Spanish Air Force, contains some 50,000 carefully defined aerobic manoeuvres together with their coefficients of difficulty.

So armed, followers of those magnificent men in their flying machines will be able to appreciate more fully what Philip Meeson will be doing with Britain's first purpose-built aerobics aircraft, the Cranfield A1.

As the name suggests, the "A1" was designed and built by students of the School of Aeronautics at Cranfield Institute of Technology near Bedford, and first flown there two years ago by its test pilot, Angus McVie. And as it lined up on the runway for its Farnborough debut, Cranfield's Professor Denis Howe justifiably pointed out that the plane had proved no mean measure of the school's engineering design ability.

During the show, Meeson, a 30-year-old professional aerobics pilot and the present British champion, will be putting the "A1" through the kind of manoeuvres expected of world-class competition pilots. There will be loops and stall turns and flick rolls, with show stoppers like tail slides and four-roll rolling circles thrown in for good measure. And each manoeuvre is executed with only milliseconds between them in an imaginary box in the air just 4,000 metres by 1,000 metres.

"It's a serious, thinking sport," says Meeson, "and not unlike figure skating. Each manoeuvre has to be technically perfect as well as being visually satisfying at the same time. In competition, there would be judges on the ground timing him up against spirit levels and compasses and then making adjustments for interpretation and presentation."

At the moment, the Russians are the world leaders in the sport with their full-time teams of men and women aerobics; and they are closely followed by the Czechs. Both teams use home-built planes, the Russians have their Yaks, and the Czechs the Zlin 50, arguably the best aerobics aircraft to date.

Meeson and his British team have been using the American Pitts Special, a tiny bi-plane which some experts say is simply too small for judges to follow properly from the ground. The wingspan of the Cranfield A1 is almost twice that of the Pitts which does tend to decrease its agility—its rate, for example, of 170 per second compares with a rate of 500 per second for the Pitts.

"But the Pitts," says Professor Howe, "is so small it looks like a fly buzzing around. We went out to develop an

aeroplane large enough to be graceful which at the same time retained a rapid control response."

The "A1" has achieved all that, but Philip Meeson still has to be convinced that it better its three rivals, the Pitts, the Zlin 50 and the Russian Yak. His sponsors, the tobacco company Philip Morris, have said they will continue to sponsor him, and that the final choice of aircraft is up to him. "If he chooses the Russian plane it would mean we would automatically pull out," a spokesman for the company's sponsorship division told me. "But naturally we would prefer him to fly British."

The European championships take place in France next July with the world championships in West Germany the following year. Meeson says he can afford to give the "A1" four months trial before making up his mind. But there is more at stake than the prestige to be gained by winning. The plane is built by Cranfield's plane-makers believe they have come up with a product that could be easily modified for a variety of commercial roles and thereby provide a much needed fillip for our battered aircraft industry.

Professor Howe explains: "The 'A1' is essentially a two-seater and being eminently easy to fly would make an ideal trainer. Alternatively, its manoeuvrability, especially at low altitudes, could turn it into a crop sprayer. This small plane could provide the ideal base for an aircraft industry."

But it is a third and rather more sinister use that Howe predicts will be the one most likely to catch on. "We think that developing countries in Africa and elsewhere could find it a very useful aid in counter-insurgency work. It would be capable of carrying a good payload of small bombs and rockets with the agility that would give it an excellent chance of a safe getaway."

Altogether Professor Howe reckons there could be a market for at least 50 of his planes. But for the "A1" to find its buyers, Farnborough is undoubtedly a good place to start. And if the buyers fail to materialize, there is always the hope that British Aerospace might themselves consider the plane worth developing.

But given the frail state of the industry at the moment, the future for this aircraft, which started life as part of a Master of Science degree course, seems largely to depend on whether Philip Meeson decides to adopt it for his international aerobics. If he does come down in favour of the "A1" he would at least ensure the plane's survival. But over and above that, he would become as good a travelling salesman as Cranfield could wish for.

Robin Laurance

Race: what the Americans can teach us

Among various lessons in race relations that I believe can be learnt from America, one is paramount. In our efforts to secure racial justice and racial harmony in Britain we need to be both more relaxed and more determined.

For a month this summer I travelled in America meeting people and organizations involved in race relations and discussing mutual concerns. America's racial problems are bigger and worse than ours. Yet they are being tackled with an enviable mixture of calmness and thoroughness.

During the 1960s Americans went through demonstrations, riots and intense public debate. A will to act was forged. Equality of opportunity became accepted as a national goal. The debate on the principle is virtually over, and far-reaching legislation is on the statute books.

Argument continues about the fastest and most effective way of putting the principle into practice (eg. the Bakke case), but it is a national, not a frenzied, argument. In America the patterns of disadvantage from which black people suffer are more deeply embedded than in Britain. Legalized discrimination and segregation have been ended, but de facto segregation in housing—and consequently in schools—persists on a large scale. This, in turn, affects job prospects in a familiar cycle of disadvantage.

Americans realize that it is one thing to remove legal obstacles from the path of blacks

but another to secure their economic advancement. What impresses the visitor is the determination with which Americans are undertaking their long hard slog towards real improvement in the prospects for blacks and other minorities.

Clear leadership by government and vigorous enforcement of the anti-discrimination laws are seen as crucial to further progress. Firmer action is now being taken to ensure equality of opportunity in companies which are federal contractors and in housing, education, health and welfare programmes drawing federal finance. The role of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, acting against discrimination in employment, has been strengthened.

Equal opportunity programmes are the rule rather than the exception. Ethnic record-keeping, once controversial, is now widely regarded as a normal feature of life for the monitoring of progress. It is done by government departments, by other public bodies and by large numbers of private-sector employers.

Britain has had to make a rapid adjustment during a single generation to the realities of our new multi-racial society. The record so far has been creditable. Though much remains to be done in overcoming prejudice and discrimination, we have made fair progress towards racial justice and racial harmony.

In the next stage we ought

to be confident of success. Compared with the United States, the patterns of discrimination and disadvantages affecting ethnic minorities here are not so deeply rooted, the problems generally are less formidable.

Yet we appear to be faltering today. The danger is of a loss of nerve, a failure of will. What has happened to our national self-confidence? Britain's situation is not unique; other countries are also having to make adjustments. In contrast to the United States, the public atmosphere in Britain about race relations is frenzied and nervous, as if we were living on the edge of a volcano. We veer between extremes of hysteria and complacency.

Some people say: "We have no problems here", and snarl at those doing constructive work for race relations; among others racism is almost respectable. Preoccupation with immigration diverts attention from the more urgent issues inside this country.

Instead of the relaxed but committed way in which the Americans are tackling their much greater problems, too many of us in Britain seem uncertain about accepting equality of opportunity as a national goal. It is a goal wholly in keeping with Britain's traditions of justice, tolerance and decency, and wholly within our grasp.

Instead of halfheartedness we need a total commitment against discrimination. We can-

not compromise with racism. If we act now with determination and thoroughness, I feel sure that we can largely overcome our remaining problems during the 1980s and 1990s. If we are hesitant, the problems will grow worse and will be harder to solve later.

Ours can never be a healthy society if a small minority are denied access to the best things in life just because they happen to be black.

Action must flow from the right blend of public education, persuasion, and law enforcement. This is a difficult judgment, which we in the Commission for Racial Equality have constantly to make, but responsibility is not ours alone. The challenge is to the whole nation, and the CRE seeks allies in a national effort.

Leadership is required from the Government, local authorities, employers and trade unions, from media and politicians, from voluntary organizations and individuals. There are plenty of fine sentiments, but they are not yet being translated into effective action.

During the forthcoming general election I hope that there will be no major party-political controversy damaging to race relations. In the national interest let all responsible parties reaffirm their opposition to racism and discrimination and their commitment to a just and harmonious society.

David Lane

The author is Chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality.



Violence in America in the 60s: years of peace ahead?

Broadcasting: one White Paper too many

A character in Barrie's *What Every Woman Knows* asserts somewhere that "I have often noticed that a man whose second thoughts are good is worth watching." I cannot say as much for Mr. Merlyn Rees. In the debate on the Annan report last year, he was far from enthusiastic about an open broadcasting authority for the fourth channel. He would have been a happy man to see the first draft of the Government's White Paper, prepared by Lord Harris and the civil servants which would have left the BBC alone and given the fourth channel to ITV. Instead a second paper has been foisted upon him in which Philip Whitehead has given the OBA the kiss of life, and Anthony Wedgwood Benn has had his way with the BBC.

With regard to broadcasting, what is it that makes the

Labour Party tick? Strip away the jargon of publications such as "The People and the Media" and we are left with a simple but powerful commercial channel (tempered only in part by its obvious popularity with Labour voters), and an even stronger dislike of the BBC. Sir Michael Swann and Lord Ian Trethowan are believed to be unsympathetic to the bitter memories of battles fought and lost. Socialists object to the profitability of the one and to the independence of the other. Hence the proposal to oblige the taxpayer to foot the bill for the OBA, and the three new management boards for the BBC packed with political nominees. The first idea is farious; the second sinister.

The weakness of the OBA by Anthony Smith out of Philip Whitehead with Lord Annan in

attendance, is financial. The White Paper admits the need for public funds to supplement whatever income from advertising the programmes succeed in attracting. Why should the taxpayer pay for programmes which few would watch?

The White Paper acknowledges that "money cannot simply be siphoned off ITV. The Programme Company must pay a rental to the BBC in return for their licence to broadcast. The payment is linked to the provision of services such as the transmitter network, engineering development and the administrative costs of the authority. Nor can the proceeds of the levy be simply devoted to financing the fourth channel, although this is an assumption often made by supporters of the OBA. Revenue arising from a particular source cannot be

hypothecated for a specific purpose. Besides the outstretched cash, the proponents of the OBA believe that only new institutions can of themselves provide new programmes of a higher standard (whatever that might mean), a proposition that cannot be sustained. Ideas look upon new institutions rather as Nineteenth Century landowners built follies on the tops of hills both as monuments to themselves and as a means of giving employment to others. They talk much of minority programmes but are careful not to say what they mean by them. I have a nasty feeling we should have rather more Marx than Mozart.

If the OBA is just plain silly, the Government's plans for the BBC are frankly alarming. They are designed to pay off old scores. In order—

so we are told—to reduce bureaucracy, three new Boards are to be introduced into the BBC to run radio, television and the external services. Half the members of each board are to be appointed by the Home Secretary. The Governors, who are urged to "distance themselves from everyday affairs" (they are in fact supervisory, not executive) will, it is proposed, chair each of these new Boards. Thus, we are led to suppose, the BBC will be made both more efficient and more accountable.

If the Government's White Paper is in search of a subtitle it could only be "Socialism against the Media". ITV has long looked to the Conservatives for a second channel, which the BBC has enjoyed for ten years, the commonsense solution that would fill the screen more quickly and cost

the taxpayer nothing, while the BBC is now threatened by quango rule. The Corporation would become the last resting place of retired trades unionists.

I think it was Sir Keith Joseph who drew attention to the "ratchet effect" in politics whereby the Conservatives acquiesced in changes brought about by Labour. It does not apply to broadcasting. With the creation of ITV, the Conservatives broke the BBC's monopoly in the fifties, and in the seventies we introduced independent radio. Were we to be returned at an October election, we would give the fourth channel to ITV, and leave the BBC well alone.

Julian Critchley

The author is Conservative MP for Aldershot and chairman of the party's Media Committee.

An ordinary house in an ordinary street



yet it could rescue 7 elderly people from loneliness

Abbeyfield buys and converts ordinary houses into about 7 bed-sitting rooms each. Here, lonely elderly people enjoy both the privacy of their own rooms with their own furniture around them—and the company of others at two meals a day, served in the dining room by the housekeeper. Abbeyfield helps people of all backgrounds. Abbeyfield is, perhaps, one of the more imaginative solutions to the problem of loneliness in old age. Each Abbeyfield house is established and looked after by its

ABBIEFIELD SOCIETY

President: Lord Pritchard
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Survival only of the fittest

There can be few cities so unequivocally divided into two as Rio de Janeiro. The middle classes live crammed together in the Zona Sul, where hundreds of tall blocks of flats are squeezed in along the narrow strip lying between the sea and the mountains which surround most of Rio de Janeiro Bay. The Zona Norte on the other hand, stretches for 30 miles along Rio's only link with the rest of the country, the 10-lane Avenida Brasil, which leads to the low rise working-class cities of Nova Iguaçu and Duque de Caxias.

Each group is completely unaware of how the other half lives. If the middle classes never trespass in the Zona Norte, apart from those who work there as servants, in shops or restaurants, the Zona Norte dwellers only go to the Zona Sul to lie on the famous beaches on Saturdays and Sundays.

The commercial heart, where the two cities overlap, is a tiny square mile of bustle, where the business of this city of seven million people is concentrated. Here, much of the nation's trading, banking and

shipping business is done. But at the end of each day, each head in a different direction. Those going to the south drive along a motorway built on land reclaimed from the Rio de Janeiro Bay, which speeds them to the beginning of their ghetto. Those going to the north squeeze into desperately packed buses and trains for their long, slow trek out of town.

For one group, living with 200,000 others in the same square kilometre, life is fairly comfortable, if the disciplines of flat life can be accepted. No open space for many miles, apart from the reluctantly overcrowded and often polluted beaches. For the others there is more space, but for most there is the exhausting struggle of fighting a way to and from work along that narrow corridor to the centre. In trains so crowded that dozens are killed and seriously injured each year as they lose their grip on the outside of the coaches and fall.

The motor car, which spearheaded the industrial miracle here, has seriously harmed the Zona Sul. Among the most densely populated areas in the world, Copacabana, Ipanema and Leblon have been made almost intolerable. Virtually useless for getting about the narrow, canyon-like streets and with nowhere to park, cars have gradually encroached on

to the pavements of all streets but the main shopping thoroughfare and the almost holy Avenida Atlântica, the front itself. Pedestrians have to squeeze a way between cars double or triple parked on the pavement up to the walls of buildings.

Every now and again cars are towed away, but others immediately take their place, so the battle has been given up as lost. The best that can be done is to construct huge plant holders on the pavements. But even these are often smashed or pushed away by desperate motorists in search of a spot.

Visitors can count themselves lucky to leave Rio totally unscathed, without having a pocket picked, a bag snatched, being the victim of a traffic accident, or a bus hijacking. Rio now claims to be the second most violent city in the world.

The worst excesses of the "Death Squad", or more correctly squads, are confined to one sector of the Zona Norte. Until August this year, 250 people had been found shot dead there, most of them under 25 and many teenagers. Rio de Janeiro has continued to attract migrants long after its capacity to absorb them has ceased. There is high unemployment, open or disguised. Bright young men from the Zona Norte have few options

other than crime if they want to make a fortune and rise quickly.

Anything goes. Fifteen buses linking the centre with Nova Iguaçu are held up every day. Often just the conductor's belongings are removed from their usually at gunpoint. Sometimes passengers' belongings and even clothing are taken too. Occasionally a gun goes off and somebody gets killed or

injured. But this is just petty cash. The real money is made from controlling distribution of the drugs which have made Rio a drug capital, and from running the various illegal betting games.

Groups of bandits fight it out among themselves, and when they are not cooperating, with them, the police fight the bandits. Firms contract gunmen to eliminate their protection men, or hire protection men to dispose of thieves who call too frequently.

The main conflict is over who is to distribute marijuana, which comes in from Mato Grosso, the north-east, and Paraguay, and an estimated nine tons a year of cocaine from Bolivia. The struggle for control seems to be passing through one of its periodic crises at the moment. During one weekend in August, 17 people were found shot dead by the roadside in Nova Iguaçu. A St Valentine's Day massacre takes place here every weekend.

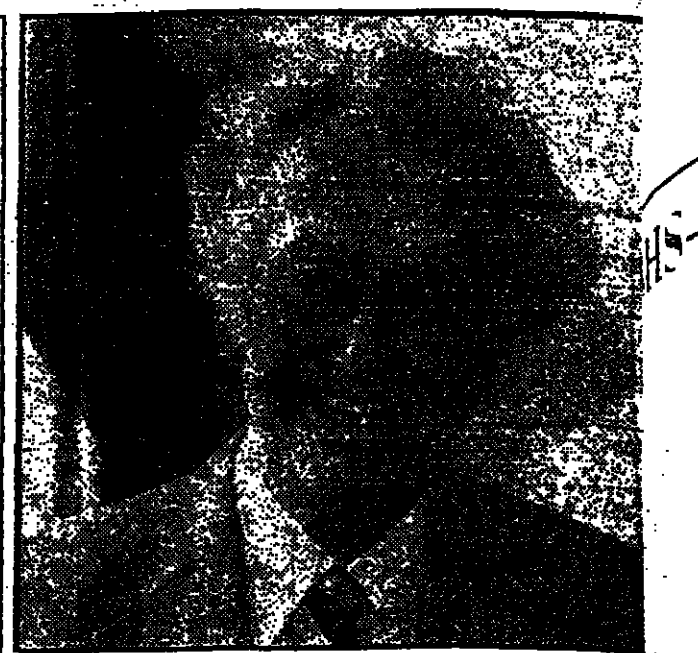
Crime may be rife in Rio, but the most common cause of violent death is the motor car, driven as only the Carinas, as those who live in Rio de Janeiro are called. There are three times as many deaths per car/inhabitant as in West Germany, a notoriously dangerous place to drive, and 10 times more than in the United States. There is a

serious bus crash every day with speeding vehicles hurtling off bridges and viaducts, in houses, bars and supermarkets. The furious bus drivers of Rio are compelled by a minimum system to complete a minimum number of journeys each day, come what may a route.

Rio de Janeiro remains Brazil's undoubted cultural capital. While the cinemas of Sao Paulo, a city almost twice as big and certainly now twice as rich, were showing old Brazilian-made films in recent weeks—*The We Endowed*, *Hot Lead* and *The Lady on the Bus*—at least a dozen quality films made in Brazil were being screened in Rio.

And many films made here are well worth seeing. One producer has said that the cinema in the United States is bankrupt. It has said all it can to say. The future is with us. Indeed, some stunning and very challenging films have been made here in recent years, standing comparison with any in the world although they sometimes lack the polish and the packaging which American and European audiences have come to see as essential.

Patrick Knight



Harry Mortimer: a commendable record.

Brass without the muck

For a man who retired 14 years ago, Harry Mortimer, Britain's foremost brass band figure, leads an extremely active life. His diary is a treasure trove of much handiwork in arranging engagements to conduct brass bands all over the country: he is at present organizing the British Open Championships which take place at Belle Vue, Manchester, next Saturday; he still conducts the Oxford band ("it fills in the two nights a week I would otherwise have off").

A commendable record for a man of 76. And if further measure were needed of his popularity in the musical world it is there, in the fact that a television programme, *Harry Mortimer's World of Music*, in which he conducted his Men of Brass ensemble playing some of his favourite pieces, which was originally shown in February, recently had to be repeated in response to viewers' requests. All this activity is a tribute to his work over the years in raising the status of brass bands to its present wide acceptance.

Harry Mortimer started playing at the age of eight in his native Hobden Bridge with a borrowed instrument. His own first instrument, bought for £10, is still in his possession—a silver-plated with pearl top valves, in a pig-skin leather case lined with velvet.

The family later moved to Luton where the formidable Mortimer family combination began its existence: Harry and his brothers Alex and Rex, who later also became brass band conductors, joined the band which their father, the famous Fred Mortimer, conducted.

"Fred was a mariner," he recalls. "He was master at home as well as in the band room. We all wanted to join the band but we had to earn our places. There was no favouritism just because we were the sons of the conductor."

As a youth during the 1914-18 war, Harry Mortimer was invited to play the trumpet in a theatre orchestra, an experience which he believed was invaluable to him when he later auditioned as trumpet player with the Hatfield Orchestra.

Years ago a Northern lord mayor, introducing him to an audience, praised his musical ability as follows: "he is one of the finest trumpet players—a good that Gabriel is standing in for him." If that were true, he laughs, Gabriel has been standing in for a long time.

During the 1930s he played principal trumpet with the Hatfield and Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestras. It was during these years that he got to know many of the great conductors. (He is writing a book in which he will reminisce about these encounters.) There was, he says, a great advantage in playing the trumpet because, whereas there were large numbers of violinists and other players, there were only two or sometimes three trumpeters; the conductor, therefore, got to know the trumpet players better.

It was through these men and friendships that he was later to persuade conductors like Sir Hamilton Harty, Granville Bantock, Sir Ad Boult, Sir Malcolm Sargent, others to conduct and compete for brass bands.

"Brass bands had nothing to be ashamed of but it was when they were frowned upon by the musical world," he says.

There was then a distinction in the musical world between the working class origins of brass bands and the party which has gradually broken down over the years brass enthusiasts like Harry Mortimer.

One of the important points came when Sir Edy Elgar wrote his "Sea Suite"—dedicated to Cap. Bernard Shaw—in 1930. Later, John Ireland composed his *Comedy Overture* and *Downland Suite*. "These were written for us and afterwards transcribed for orchestra—and that was opposite to what had previously happened," he says.

He was able to further the relationships when he went to the BBC, following Sir Arthur Bliss and later Denis Wright, brass and military band advice in the music department where he worked for 25 years until his retirement in 1967.

Meanwhile, the brass band world supplying from their ranks some fine orchestral players. That, he says, is not so prevalent now because younger musicians are graduating from the music colleges but for many years there was a nucleus of very proficient outstanding brass players who went to brass bands to orchestras.

Standards in the brass band have risen tremendously, I say, largely because young people in schools and colleges now have better opportunity to take up music. He talks with great enthusiasm about the National Youth Brass Band which will have a major part to play for the first time at a concert he will conduct at next Saturday's contest.

One composition, perhaps above all others—*Life Divine* by Cyril Jenkins—is synonymous with Harry Mortimer. "It is a piece that impressed me," he says. "It is a declaratory, a creative piece of music although it is difficult for one band alone to play; it is too strenuous, is better with massed bands as I do most of the time, conducting. I suppose it has come especially associated with me. I get my leg pulled about it; people say 'I suppose you will be conducting Life Divine' I tell them that Life has been divine for me."

Harry Mortimer once said himself: "I am the haplo conductor in the world." An observation that is true of both on and off the rostrum. The happiness he puts into music making has, over years, brought great pleasure to thousands of listeners and is in large measure due to that brass bands enjoy the popularity they do.

Cyril Bainbridge

RIO DE JANEIRO DIARY

"My chief is a real high flier: he knew and he isn't telling...."



Every now and again cars are towed away, but others immediately take their place, so the battle has been given up as lost. The best that can be done is to construct huge plant holders on the pavements. But even these are often smashed or pushed away by desperate motorists in search of a spot.

Visitors can count themselves lucky to leave Rio totally unscathed, without having a pocket picked, a bag snatched, being the victim of a traffic accident, or a bus hijacking. Rio now claims to be the second most violent city in the world.

The worst excesses of the "Death Squad", or more correctly squads, are confined to one sector of the Zona Norte. Until August this year, 250 people had been found shot dead there, most of them under 25 and many teenagers. Rio de Janeiro has continued to attract migrants long after its capacity to absorb them has ceased. There is high unemployment, open or disguised. Bright young men from the Zona Norte have few options

other than crime if they want to make a fortune and rise quickly.

Anything goes. Fifteen buses linking the centre with Nova Iguaçu are held up every day. Often just the conductor's belongings are removed from their usually at gunpoint. Sometimes passengers' belongings and even clothing are taken too. Occasionally a gun goes off and somebody gets killed or

injured. But this is just petty cash. The real money is made from controlling distribution of the drugs which have made Rio a drug capital, and from running the various illegal betting games.

Groups of bandits fight it out among themselves, and when they are not cooperating, with them, the police fight the bandits. Firms contract gunmen to eliminate their protection men, or hire protection men to dispose of thieves who call too frequently.

The main conflict is over who is to distribute marijuana, which comes in from Mato Grosso, the north-east, and Paraguay, and an estimated nine tons a year of cocaine from Bolivia. The struggle for control seems to be passing through one of its periodic crises at the moment. During one weekend in August, 17 people were found shot dead by the roadside in Nova Iguaçu. A St Valentine's Day massacre takes place here every weekend.

Crime may be rife in Rio, but the most common cause of violent death is the motor car, driven as only the Carinas, as those who live in Rio de Janeiro are called. There are three times as many deaths per car/inhabitant as in West Germany, a notoriously dangerous place to drive, and 10 times more than in the United States. There is a

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The nation's health

NHS—the whole thing a mistake?

George Hill

developed nations are more or less perched about their health, but only Britain is fully and incurably perched about its National Health Service. There is a capital letter: the NHS makes all thought about health problems in this country, often to the point of obsession. The idea of a free health service was Britain's distinctive contribution to postwar thinking—we lost an idea and gained a national Health Service. It still has a special place in our national idea of ourselves. But it has not been imitated abroad and the ideals that surrounded its birth remain unfulfilled, while in recent years the special guilt which attaches to the NHS has been discussed in its short history; hence the past is circling of argument and issues like pay beds, prescription charges, ideological significant but trivial in practical terms. It is terrifying to think that the whole thing may have been a mistake. The debate will seem to be mainly about money. It is dictated more by the nature of the service than its objective inadequacy. Its claim to offer comprehensive care is, in a sense, impossible to fill within any conceivable location of funds. This means that the most serious problems are about

priorities within whatever budget the nation can afford. But since decisions of that kind necessarily mean choosing on purpose to treat one group of patients or one area of the country less favourably than another, there are no easy rallying calls in that direction. It is simpler to call for more money all round, as the chairman of the British Medical Association did recently. But for politicians, even that is less simple than it was. In the last major Commons debate on the NHS, Mr Patrick Jenkin wondered whether he was the first Opposition spokesman on health to refrain from demanding a massive new injection of funds. Such a demand would chime awkwardly with the Conservative Party's commitment to thrift in the public sector. As recently as a year ago, the Conservatives were loudly speculating about new ways of raising money for the NHS without violating the sacrosanct principle that medical care should be free at the point of delivery. As election time approached, they grew perceptibly more discreet, preferring to emphasize the advantages of waiting to see what the royal commission now examining the NHS might recommend about finance. On the Government side, Mr David Ennals, confident of the appeal of a free service (and equally unable to offer massive injections of money), repeatedly challenges them simply to admit that they have open minds about possible new sources of finance. Theoretically, the most fundamental change discussed in Opposition circles is a transfer of the main funding of the service from general taxation to national insurance. Mr Jenkin believes that it is a "frailty of our human nature" to pay more cheerfully for identifiable public services than for all of them lumped together, and that the NHS might profitably and legitimately take advantage of this frailty.

It is also claimed that a service based more on insurance would be less dependent on political factors for the size of its income—a view which attributes an implausible frailty of mind to future Chancellors of the Exchequer. Transfer to insurance would be a change mainly in appearance unless different rates of premium secured different standards of care. But most Conservatives know that in the eyes of the public that would amount to sacrilege against the most hallowed ideals of the NHS. The Opposition is determined to raise prescription charges, which have remained unchanged since 1971 (the Labour Party remains committed in principle to abolishing them altogether). The Tories also speak of possible "hotel charges" to meet the non-medical costs of hospital patients. The former might raise up to £30m at negligible cost in administration or deterrence to patients; the latter might raise as much, but probably at greater cost. Exemptions from charges mean that almost two thirds of patients would pay nothing anyway. The Conservatives also mean to encourage the revival of private treatment in NHS hospitals, which earned the service £26m last year. But these possible sources of extra income look small beside the £6,300m that the NHS spent last year. The most they could add would be less than one year's growth of expenditure in real terms, in a period of severe restraint. The great problems lie elsewhere. Controversy over the private sector outside the NHS has died down, but could easily revive. Some members of the health service unions will be content with nothing short of a NHS monopoly in hospital treatment, while many doctors would see that as involving the ultimate extinction of their professional independence. The economic recession has exposed the limits of the patient's sacrosanct right to protection for their terms of new clinics and employees (partly as a result of seeking to drive private practice out of NHS hospitals, the private sector today offers extra convenience in a limited category of cases—those which are not emergencies but in which rapid cure is medically straight-forward and cheap. The care



Tony McSweeney

It is inside the NHS itself that the real battles have to be fought. They involve grave political judgments, but ones to which party politics do not seem very relevant. The leaders and the moderate wings of the major parties are not greatly at odds in their overall view of what needs to be done. But the many conflicting local and professional vested interests make it difficult to agree on the details. Every step injures feelings somewhere. Morale in the service, perennially under strain, was perhaps as low as it has ever been 12 months ago. If anything, it is a little steadier today, but it is in no state to endure any more upheavals. Even without the conflicts of the past five years, the service would probably have experienced some kind of crisis of self-doubt in the 1970s. Health services in many other countries are doing so. Elsewhere the apparently irresistible tendency of the sector to devour a growing share of national resources has aroused concern about whether its appetites can be curbed. The British are almost alone in worrying that they are spending too little rather than too much. There is room for much argument whether this represents the great triumph or the great failure of the NHS. The evidence is strong, however, that such resources as we do devote to health are being spent relatively economically and relatively fairly. But within the NHS the crisis of self-doubt has coincided with the stress caused by an unsuccessful administrative reorganization, the loss of inhibitions about industrial conflict and, of course, shortages of money. The perplexity about aims stems from a growing realization of just how much and how little medicine can do. Technological advances produce spectacular miracles—babies conceived in vitro, corpses kept breathing for decades. But the general gains in expectation of life—even of alert and pain-free life—seem disappointingly small. Decent drains and air pollution controls have probably done more for health than all the hospitals ever built. This kind of thinking

leads to a mistrust of expensive and dramatic medicine and a desire to make services, limited as they must be, meet actual need as closely as possible. Since no calculus exists for weighing one kind of human suffering against another, the process is a painful and controversial one. Most of the recent much-publicized disputes about underfunded services and hospital closures are the result of the attempt (on the basis of evidence admittedly imperfect but not worthless) to marry provision better to need. The restraints on public spending would not have hurt nearly as much if they had not coincided with these changes, the case for which is in principle, at least, unassailable. In the next few years the particular need will be to expand facilities for the very old, whose numbers are going to increase. Many doctors and nurses find little fulfilment in this work. The more it can be aimed at keeping patients away from the geriatric ward, the more rewarding it becomes. Effectiveness in this sector and economy everywhere dictate a policy of care away from hospital, with more emphasis on prevention and closer partnership between doctors and other caring professions. Doctors used to taking the responsibility will not always find the more complex relationships. The change in the way the doctor's role is seen has been sharply accelerated since 1975 by the profession's own behaviour. The sanctions imposed first by the consultants, then by junior hospital staff were not the first major instances of industrial action within the NHS and they did not involve outright abandonment of patients. But patients suffered, and their suffering was used to bring pressure. These examples encouraged the often bizarrely irresponsible actions that have followed. No doubt the atmosphere would have changed anyway, for many struggles about striking have faded during the same period in Britain. But it is not clear that the service can now go back to its previous position than Adam Smith could have done once he

had tasted the apple. The paradoxically primitive industrial relations procedures of the service will have to be greatly strengthened. Such a need was undreamt of a mere four years ago in the great reorganization of the NHS structure. Never can a plan have been drawn up with such elaborate consultation; never can one have strangled itself so quickly in its own complexities. Many of the criticisms made of it are contradictory, reflecting the confusion in the service about ends and means (the complaint that there are too many administrators, in particular, is essentially a grumble of doctors for whom every penny not spent on drugs and electro-cardiograms is money wasted). The structure is as remarkable for its gaps as its superfluities. There is no national forum where all groups involved can discuss broad policies. If the health service unions had taken a share in planning the reallocation of resources, doctors might have reconciled themselves more easily to cancelled building plans, and the ancillary workers could scarcely have played such a conservative part in fighting against almost any closure involving loss of jobs. At district and even hospital level there should be more freedom to take decisions within the framework of national policy, and greater financial accountability to give a motive for economy of service. The importance of the regional authority would decline and the need for area-level authorities probably disappear altogether. But any reform must be tried out in the field before the imposition of another giant national system is considered. There are too many interest groups in the service for any change to please everybody. Not the least important interest group to listen to is that of the patients themselves. The most important questions that will face the next secretary of state will necessarily be political ones, for redistributing resources and recasting the administrative structure are political problems in the fullest sense. But they are not problems that the weary catchphrases of party politics will be much help in solving.

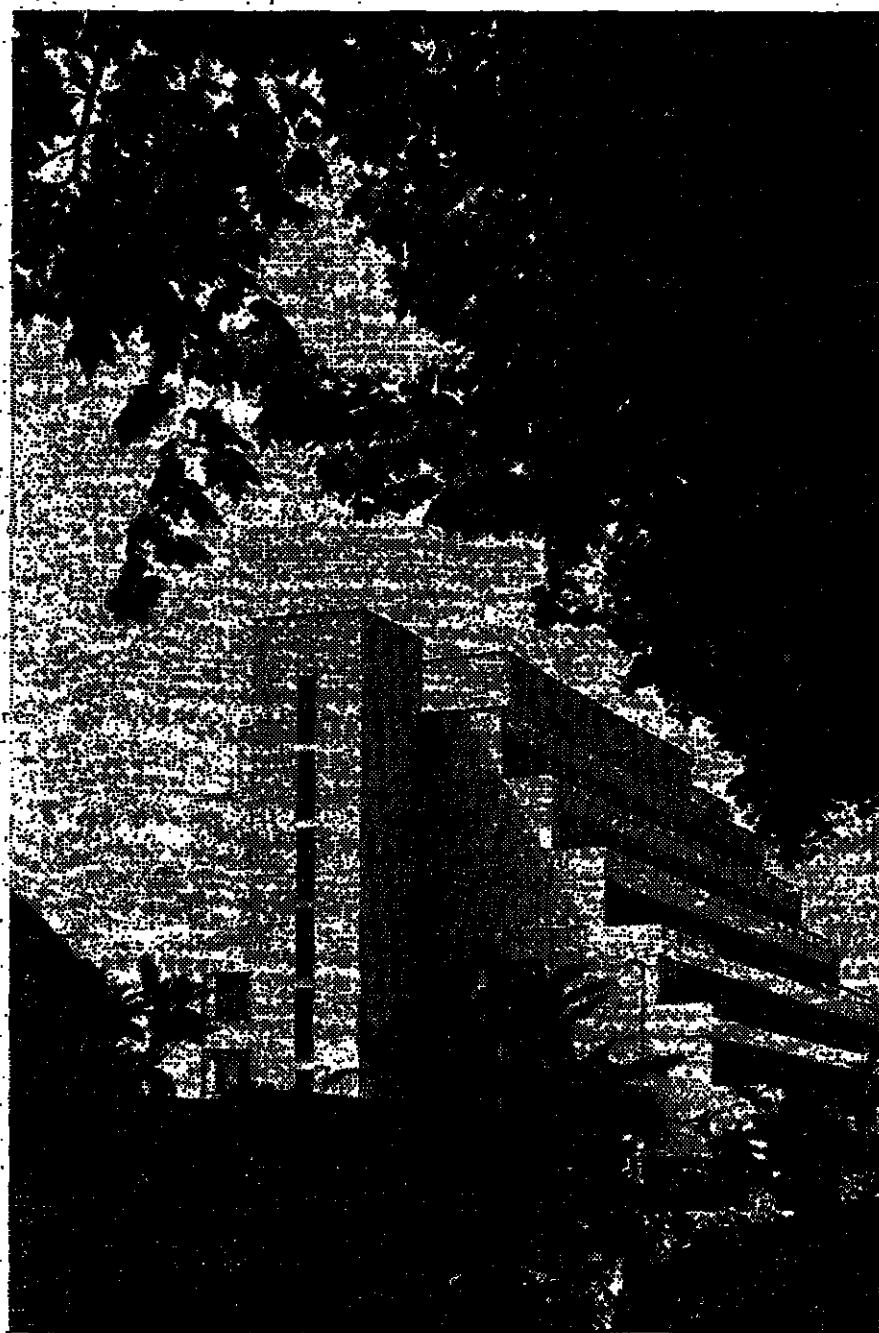
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Real growth but no boom in private sector

by Nicholas Timmins

In 1976, on the day the Health Services Act became law, Mr Gordon Blackall, the administrator of the Independent Hospital Group, had a map on his wall covered with more than 100 coloured pins. Each pin represented a proposal for a new private hospital.

With the Act about to remove 1,000 of the 4,444 NHS pay beds at a stroke, and then gradually to phase out the remainder, the head of the day screamed about a boom in private medicine. Today, if he had a similar map, it might have 25 pins on it.

The difference is that the 25 stand for a real chance of coming to fruition over the next three to five years. The vast majority of the 100 never got past the drawing board.

But the far fewer advanced to have launched appeals to raise the £1,500,000 needed to build the 30-bed units that make up most of the proposals — a key plank in the development which Mr Michael Lee, consultant economist with Lee-Donaldson Associates, and the man who provides the Department of Health with its statistics on movements in the private sector, believes will turn the private sector into a Private Health Service, spelt with capitals, perhaps a complementary alternative to the NHS.

For while it would be an unfair jibe to dub Mrs Barbara Castle as the patron saint of private medicine, it is true that the Act which resulted from her determined drive to end the inequities of the NHS paybeds is the architect of a separate private health service.

The Health Services Board, whose job under the

Act it is to phase out paybeds, can remove them only if they are under-used, or if alternative facilities exist in the private sector.

Faced with the assurance in the second of those criteria that many of the paybeds will be with us for years, as well as the challenge that the Act that is to be made to seek out alternatives to paybeds, neither the consultants who do the private work, nor those who run the independent sector, are going to wither and die. Economics permitting, they are going to grow.

For after the alarms of 1974 and 1975, the Act means "We know where we stand", Mr Derek Damerall, chief executive of the British United Provident Association, the giant in the health insurance market, says.

By making everybody sit up and assess what could be done, the Act has set the private sector on a more stable growth pattern than ever before, he believes.

"There will be the beds. There will be the facilities." Private medicine, outside the NHS has been growing for years. Mr Lee's figures show that in 1970, the year before standard charges were introduced for pay beds, exactly half the £40m spent on private health care went to the NHS.

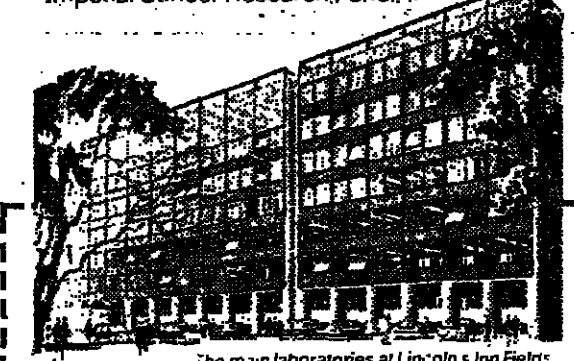
By 1976 almost 70 per cent of the £134m then spent was in private hospitals, not in pay beds, and the proportion for last year, when expenditure rose to £165m, is likely to be higher again.

In the two years from 1974, when the pay-bed troubles started in earnest, expenditure in the private sector outside the NHS rose by one quarter in real terms. For all the switch in private

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In 1977 and 1978 some 26 developments have come to the board's notice, and while some of these are clearly elaborate pipe dreams, Mr Tony Taggart, the board's secretary, estimates that they might mean 600 more private beds by 1980 or thereabouts. Many of these will effect replacement pay beds as they are phased out.

That hardly makes for a boom. But it does represent real growth among the independent hospitals which have about 4,000 beds equipped for acute care.

The significance for the NHS, and for the provident associations, is that almost all this growth is aimed at the British — at the man in the street, or at least his employer. And much of it is outside London. The luxury days of private medicine have reached their limit — the Arabs are going home.

The Arabs brought money. American Medical, which runs the Harley Street Clinic, the Princess Grace (cheapest bed, £98 a day) and St Anthony's, Chess, will turn over £10m this year, 90 per cent of it from overseas. At the Harley Street and Princess Grace, and perhaps 80 per cent of that Arab money. Massive hospital building programmes in the Middle East mean simply that the best, best quality, most of the "varicose veins and hernias, will cease to come here."

The stemming of the Arab tide means that London could soon find itself with too many private hospitals — at least in the luxury class.

The private sector is always rife with rumours of somebody about to open another luxury hospital. But it is true that American money is still hoping to build in and around London.

And it is not insignificant that AME's plans hinge around hospitals built to treat Britons, mostly on health insurance, rather than to extend into an international market that is at, if not past, saturation.

"It is most important that we build hospitals that patients can afford to go into," Dr Stanley Balfour-Lynn, managing director of AME, says.

AME's Manchester unit will take some cases from overseas, as will the Windsor unit. But both these and the Harrow development — which faces competition across the street from the Hospital Corporation of America's largely to be "community-based hospitals", Dr Balfour-Lynn says. At Harrow, for example, the aim is to provide beds costing £50 to £60 a day, rather than £98 upwards.

Almost everyone talking about hospital building now says that £50 a day will be the top rate for the new generation of private hospitals — a figure that by no coincidence is just over that charged by the NHS for a provincial hospital pay bed, and some £14-a-day less than the £450 a week a London teaching hospital pay bed costs. Many are aimed at the £40 or a little below mark which undercuts the ordinary NHS pay bed.

Another clear sign of the times is a plan by AME to introduce what amounts to pay-to-go GP medicine at its London hospitals, with "creditworthy" customers meeting their bill in 12 monthly instalments.

For it has to be remembered that while the London luxury clinics have attracted much of the glamour and the headlines in recent years, their position in the private sector as a whole is not that important.

Health insurance through the provident associations has all along provided roughly half the money spent on private health care in Britain, and already the most important single source of finance in the private sector, it is likely to become even more important.

Within the provident associations, group membership, particularly employment-based group schemes, hold the key. Since 1971 individual subscribers to the provident associations have been falling away as costs have mounted. By last year three quarters of subscribers were enrolled as group members, not individuals.

Ninety-seven of The Times list of top 100 companies offer Bupa benefits to at least some of their employees, and inquiries from companies are on the increase. It is no longer just the top executives who are covered. Mr Damerall says there is a "noticeable shift across social barriers" among subscribers, with more trade union members and more skilled workers joining.

Recently, he says, there have been a significant number of inquiries from local trade union secretaries interested in including health insurance as a fringe benefit in the next round of wage negotiations. "If there is going to be a growth in health insurance, it has almost got to be slightly downstream in the social stratum", he says — and to prove the point Bupa plans a television commercial in the southern region this year, showing health insurance as at the reach of the rich and idle, but for a young, not particularly middle-class family.

What does all this mean for the NHS? And what does the private sector really have to offer? For the NHS, the size of the private sector has to be kept in perspective. But for the four million people in Britain off private care when ill. But the figures show that for years private health spending has hovered around 2 per cent of spending on the National Health Service, that proportion may be rising marginally, but it is still tiny.

In standards of care, ruling out the NHS blackspots, there is nothing of significance to choose. The surgeon who performs a coronary bypass at the Harley Street Clinic, probably did one once in the day at the National Heart. The same is even truer outside London.

And indeed a case can be made that in some respects care is better in the private sector. The Wellington, the Harley Street Clinic, and the Princess Grace, for example, all have only one resident medical officer on duty at a time. A NHS hospital would probably offer a house officer, and a senior registrar on call, and anaesthetists and other specialists all actually on duty within the hospital.

While the private sector can offer the best in medical technology, much of it — the Nuffield Nursing Homes, for example — is no more geared to fashion than Bolton General. The private sector does not — and has no plans to — offer emergency service the NHS provides.

But what it does offer is what Bupa describes as "prompt treatment", and the opponents call "queue jumping". And it offers the chance to choose who runs your hospital — something the NHS singularly fails to do, and one of the factors that makes the health assurance such an attraction to employer and the self-employed.

Opponents of the private sector clearly see it as a competitive threat to the NHS, and it is easy to see why. But those who run the private sector strongly deny the charge, arguing it is complementary.

Mr Damerall concedes that the present pattern of provident subscribers "must reflect dissatisfaction with the NHS. There has been a great deal of publicity, some justified, about the NHS. But we are not in competition with the NHS. When patients are treated privately they are taken out of the waiting list. That list gets shorter. The doctor treats them outside the NHS and the cost is borne privately, not by the best service, the hospitals the NHS has not had to provide."

Dr Balfour-Lynn says: "No country is capable of delivering the best health care to its population. The private sector must help the public sector. If a patient goes privately he is saving the NHS money. He is not jumping the queue, he is coming out of it."

The author is Medical and Science Correspondent, The Press Association.

by John Roper

It is a myth that what is wrong with the National Health Service is that it has too many administrators. The off-quoted rise in staff from 38,263 in 1970 to 74,716 in 1974 — a trend which has continued, bringing the total to more than 98,000 — now covers clerical staff as well as administrative staff, and is an indication of increased bureaucracy. A more important figure is total management cost in salaries and wages, which at about 6 per cent is low for an organisation spending about £6,000m a year and employing nearly a million people.

What is wrong is the administrative structure. Reorganisation, which involves even more heated debate in the NHS than in other public services, is not working. Here and there experienced and dedicated administrators have done their best to oil wheels and find ways to make a workable system. But the more important figure is the total management cost in salaries and wages, which at about 6 per cent is low for an organisation spending about £6,000m a year and employing nearly a million people.

What is wrong is the administrative structure. Reorganisation, which involves even more heated debate in the NHS than in other public services, is not working. Here and there experienced and dedicated administrators have done their best to oil wheels and find ways to make a workable system. But the more important figure is the total management cost in salaries and wages, which at about 6 per cent is low for an organisation spending about £6,000m a year and employing nearly a million people.

Many could not face the final results of years of discussions, notable as much for disavowals as for the Three Government Green Papers, amending each other, were followed by a White Paper with amendments, and what became known as the Greaves Report, setting out a management reorganisation. Administrators who had served the NHS for years.

New structure is key to NHS future

and who fully supported the main objective of reorganisation — the integration of the separate hospital, general practitioner and local authority health services — were alarmed by the practical difficulties which soon became apparent when the changeover began.

Transfer of responsibility started in 1973. Senior staff, except those in post-graduate hospitals, had to compete for new jobs with new authorities. Some had to reapply for their own jobs. Old working relationships died and new ones which had to be established are still young and often uneasy in 1978.

The upheaval was greatest in multi-district areas. No longer were there members of management committees who could be readily approached when urgent problems needed to be solved. Teaching hospitals, sensitive to any questioning of their decisions, had to adjust to channelling important proposals through new areas and regional authorities.

Everyone had to come to terms with the terms of reference established at regional and area level. For the first time, under the Salmon report proposals, nurses began to play an important part in administration, with representatives on management teams at each level of the service.

Community Health Councils, established as watchdogs for the public, had the task of advising management, could recommend improvements and had a

nomble right: consultation. There are those who say about 6 per cent of the proposals for important changes or big projects. Hospitals could be closed only if the local CEC huge sums of money into the service, even if that were found to be possible. The Secretary of State for the Department of Health would have to create as many difficulties as it would solve.

The main failure of the present structure is that quick decisions are impossible. The Department of Health sends out a crushing amount of documents containing guidance, advice and instruction — often, those in the field claim, without true understanding of the practical difficulties involved. Reorganisation might have worked at least a little more smoothly had it not been for a morale already at a singularly low ebb.

Much goodwill and dedication and even trust melted away and the service became much harder to run. For the first time in the history of the service, doctors and nurses took industrial action.

The justice of the nurses' pay claim and that of the professions' supplementary medicine was seen by an independent committee under Lord Halsbury. The long overdue adjustment meant, for example, that nurses' pay increased by 31 per cent in one year and there were improvements in conditions, including more time off.

But in a service now feeling the economic squeeze the effect on budgets was drastic.

There is much debate on how best to tackle the ills created by reorganisation.

Doctors

The medical profession is patients would suffer the most.

Consultants complain that their jobs have been made far more difficult because the time it takes now to get a decision on even small matters; and in ensuring that decisions are taken with proper appreciation of complex medical needs. Surgeons are frustrated because they sometimes lose whole operating sessions as a result of the shortage of anaesthetists and radiologists. Until a few years ago not many graduates were attracted into those specialties or pathology.

It is recognized that shortages of consultants, not only in unattractive specialties but in "unattractive areas", where few want to live or work, should be vigorously tackled and that the profession must play its part.

Mr David Bolt, chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on Health, says that the NHS has produced an imbalance of consultant manpower. The number who move is small. Conditional upon what financial pattern emerges for the NHS, his view is that the service will continue to supply a first-class service for emergencies, a good service for the gravely ill and a diminishing service for patients with less urgent conditions. Therefore more and more need will be met outside the NHS in search of treatment.

Primary care has always been an important part of the way in which British medicine is organized. It is getting an increased allocation of resources at the expense of hospital services. For the 26,000 general practitioners who work in the service, time to assess, diagnose and treat the increasing stream of patients for whom they are the "doctor of the first contact" is the greatest difficulty.

Surgery sessions have become more complex. Thirty years ago general practice medicine was comparatively simple.

Patients came with aches and pains which refused to go away. Today initial complaints are about eye, ear, nose and throat, and the real trouble, uncovered late in the investigation, and lying in the psychological, psychiatric or sexual difficulty areas.

Family doctors claim that in the hospital service consultants can adjust the service to the time they give, but the GP's terms of service mean that he has to see everyone. Many think that the appointments system has contributed to the difficulties, because patients with an appointment were concerned to "get their money's worth" and therefore took up time.

The system is also responsible for much of the antagonism against "doctor" receptionists who make appointments. The solution, as far as general practice is concerned, is not that there should be more doctors but that the public should be educated not to consult a doctor unless it is really necessary.

In terms of medical importance general practice is marching forward. When the NHS began, GPs all but disappeared from hospitals and it has taken 30 years for them to get back. The hospital practitioner grade is now established as part of increasing moves to involve them in hospital work. Family doctors now have easier access to X-ray, pathological and radiography services in hospitals.

Nurses

Shortages, changes and pressures in the National Health Service have had the greatest impact on nurses, because the 350,000 working in the service constitute the biggest professional group and the one which has the closest daily contact with patients.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the issue causing the most concern in the profession in recent months is falling standards of patient care. The difficulties imposed on the service by the economic crisis, inflation, reallocation of resources, health authority decisions to rationalize services — with the resulting closure of hospitals, units or wards — and by a woeful shortage of fully trained and experienced staff have led nurses increasingly to insist that proper care of patients has been dangerously eroded.

Differences with trade unions representing ancillary staff have become more common and are a new and difficult issue in day-to-day hospital work.

Spurred on recently by ward nurses who were no longer prepared somehow to find ways around all difficulties, the Royal College of Nursing sent out a questionnaire asking its members for facts and figures about budgets and staffing levels. The response from nurse administrators, the college says, was disappointing, a ried, most live outside the possible clue to one of the

troubles of the NHS: the is still great dedication there is less communal spirit. "One hospital giving another considerable support and devotion, but become more a work place where a job has to be done. Trade unions, which have been members among nurses 10 years ago, are now strongly represented. Campaigns to recruit nurses have been hampered by poor pay and conditions, were highly successful, particularly among those working in psychiatric hospitals. Some years ago it was estimated by the TUC Health Services Committee that about 3 per cent of nurses had joined TUC affiliated unions and recruitment has increased steadily since then.

About a third of nurses still do not belong to any organization, professional or trade union. Another third belong to the Royal College of Nursing and the rest to trade unions. Some have dropped out of the RCU as a union such as the Confederation of Health Service Employees or the National Union of Public Employees.

Meanwhile a battle is being fought over moves in various parts of the country by trade union representatives to bar the professional organizations from meetings of health authority joint consultative committees.

Paramedics

Besides doctors and nurses, other professions play a growing role in health care. Often referred to as paramedics, most of their members work closely with medical staff.

The Department of Health and Social Services lists about 40 groups, including chiropodists, dietitians, physiotherapists, radiographers, and others. Eight of them, for example, are registered as health professionals, and their members can offer services in the right allocation of time and equipment, notably when treating handicapped or older patients whose condition can be alleviated but not cured.

Some professions have decided to become independent trade unions, partly to meet closed shop rules. They also wish to make sure their voices are heard as well as those of the TUC, and industrial democracy is in the air.

In this sphere the supplementary professions have to balance their duty to promote interests of members with that of maintaining standards and protecting the public. Administrators per-

haps wish that all staff were dedicated to such dual aims. Friction can arise with the professions' own rank although employment in the National Health Service people covered by the council for supplementary professions is restricted to those registered as qualified, the same is not true of private practice. Moreover, some professions outside the council are not subject to registration. So it can happen that registered and unregistered staff work side by side each other.

Supplementary professions are frequently understaffed although there has been some improvement recently. Many members work part time and there are women to every man some of them with home ties which restrict mobility.

Techniques and equipment are changing year by year, leading to a demand for at least a proportion of staff more highly qualified than in the past. As other professions there is pressure for more postgraduate research and for more members to acquire management skills.

Patrick O'Leary



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مركز الامم

Ancillary workers

icking the medical and nursing staff of any hospital is a large army of ancillary workers. They fetch, carry, clean, cook, prepare and mend. They perform the many, varied and vital tasks which often go unremarked by outsiders, but are a large part of the teamwork of keeping a modern hospital functioning.

Although important, the ancillary workers have relatively low pay and status, like others in the public services they are caught in the pincer of rising public expectations and the determi-

tal. As an example, in the King's College Hospital district of south London (King's, Dulwich, St Francis, St Giles and Belgrave hospitals), ancillaries account for 1,700 out of a staff of 5,000, and in King's itself, a medium-sized teaching hospital, there are 900 ancillaries in the staff of 3,500.

The porters do a wide variety of jobs. They clean the surgeons' boots, help anaesthetists to position patients, order cots for patients, transport patients, and deliver the hospital mail and dispose of rubbish.

The cleaners, a large group, many of them part-

Remoteness at root of strikes

Industrial relations in the National Health Service are appalling, and have been since their worst, since the NHS was reorganised in 1974. Surprisingly there is no formally-recognised collective bargaining machinery below national level, and therefore no adequate procedure for negotiating a way out of a potential stoppage.

Most people have an erroneous impression of NHS staff as inveterate strikers but the truth is (as revealed in a study by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service) that most staff still believe that personal interests must be subordinated to those of the patient.

The reason for strikes, apart from the fact that wages for ancillary workers are among the lowest in the country, is the feeling of remoteness between management and staff and lack of local dispute procedure.

Acas, in its submission to the Royal Commission on the NHS, said consideration should be given to a comprehensive overhaul of NHS staff industrial relations policy.

The 1974 reorganisation has widened the gap between staff and management because the new multi-tiered structure removed much of the hospital-based authority for decision making and placed it with district managers.

Consequently managers at hospital level have lost some of their status because of the shift of decision making to district managers. Although most of the local managers are in touch with the industrial relations atmosphere they often complain of lack of support or positive reaction from district and area managers.

The proliferation of bargaining bodies does nothing to help an already shaky industrial relations structure. There is constant friction between the 43 bodies with which the National Health Service has to negotiate.

TUC-affiliated bodies often will not sit round the same table as non-TUC bodies, and to add to the problems, there is no love lost between the unions representing the ancillary grades—the transport workers, general and municipal workers, National Union of Public Employees and the Confederation of Health Service Employees.

The latter two are by far the biggest. Membership of the other two is nationally extremely small, although there are pockets of the country where they predominate.

The growth of unions in

Outrage at proposal for Ombudsman's role

It takes a lot to unite the medical profession, which sometimes seems able to offer as many opinions on any matter that affects it as there are individuals in medicine, but eight MPs on a House of Commons select committee seem to have done a pretty good job.

They did it by the simple expedient of recommending that the Ombudsman, who already looks into complaints about maladministration in the National Health Service should also look at cases involving clinical judgement.

If there is anything sacrosanct to doctors, it is that matters of clinical judgement are their responsibility and nobody else's. The extent of the medical profession's outrage could be measured at the British Medical Association's annual representative meeting in Cardiff where the 600 doctors present unanimously agreed to oppose the Ombudsman's remit being extended.

It would seem that for the moment at least there is little chance of the idea being taken up.

Sir Idwal Pugh—the present Ombudsman of Health Service Complaints, to give him his official title—has been scrupulously careful not to offer an opinion on the desirability of the move.

But even he has intimated that without the wholehearted cooperation of the doctors, the idea would be unworkable. The select committee said that legislation to extend the Ombudsman's powers would be counter-productive if those most involved were not prepared to make the system work, and the Department of Health, while expecting to answer the select committee's proposal later this year, seems in no hurry to do so.

But the problems behind the proposal for the Ombudsman to take clinical judgement into his ken have not gone away. Nor will they.

Complaints procedures within the NHS have been a running sore to the service for years. Until the Ombudsman arrived, health authorities were de facto judge and jury in their own cause.

The ad hoc independent inquiries the authorities have set up in the more serious cases have been notable chiefly for their expense, the enormous time they take to answer the problems, and their ability to pillory individuals who in many cases were doing their best in difficult circumstances.

The select committee recommended that ad hoc inquiries should cease. If the complainant was not satisfied by an informal local investigation, the matter should go to the Ombudsman. That certainly seems a simpler solution than the proposals of the Davies committee in 1973, which would have set up investigating panels round the country, issued patients with leaflets on entering hospital, detailing how to complain, and won as much affection from doctors as they are now reserving for the Ombudsman.

But while that might meet complaints where clinical judgement is not involved, it still leaves those where the doctor's work is being questioned. About 17,000 complaints reach the NHS each year—less than 0.3 per cent of in-patient cases treated, although the number is rising. But about half the complaints involve clinical judgement, wholly or in part.

Many of these clearly can be answered by a meeting between the doctor and the patient. But if that does not solve the issue there is nowhere else to go except the courts, a course open to the very rich and the very poor, but not many others unless the issue is plainly open and shut.

Even then the courts are no solution for somebody whose motive in complaining is not so much revenge or compensation, but a feeling that "it shouldn't happen to somebody else". The solution of letting the Ombudsman take a look is highly appealing. But the doctors do not want it and their reasons are many. The courts, they argue, provide them with legal safeguards, leaving the Ombudsman in, they believe, would put them at risk of "double jeopardy". The informal investigation might provide ammunition for a complainant to take later to court, and the doctor would be tried twice—the second time, perhaps, proving rather costly.

Sir Idwal ends investigations if he thinks the complainant is about to go to law. But in at least one case already his findings have been used to take a case further. Over and above that, doctors genuinely believe that once clinical judgement was so easily questioned, doctors would practice with an eye on the law the whole time.

The result would be over-

investigation, excessively cautious treatment, and a situation good neither for doctors, patients, nor the NHS which has enough difficulty funding the treatment now given.

Ombudsman's judgments have at times outraged doctors. Earlier this year, for example, he described as "inhuman" an overses doctor who, at 2 am on a cold November day, sent a 103-year-old woman 12 miles back to her nursing home after finding no bones broken after a fall. She died either on the journey or shortly after.

The local general practitioners are furious with Sir Idwal for not getting the doctor's side of the story—he had returned to Africa—and for failing to discover what a local inquiry later revealed—that the woman had repeatedly asked to be allowed to go home. She had no bones broken and the hospital had only one empty bed which might well have been needed for someone seriously ill.

Clearly there are arguments on both sides, and the GPs are still pursuing the case. But it illustrates another important reservation the doctors have which is that there can be no appeal against the Ombudsman's findings.

As a parliamentary officer he is answerable to Parliament alone. But if the doctors do not like the system, those with unsatisfied complaints still need an outlet.

As Mr Justice Davies, the Davies committee's chairman, put it: "It is vital that the 'shut up or sue' attitude should not prevail."

The doctors' leaders might want to contest that. But at the same time they can see the way the wind blows. In parts of the profession at least there is a feeling that something must be done.

That something might be an extended form of peer review or medical audit. In peer review, a doctor's own colleagues review cases so that lessons can be learnt.

Whether doctors move fast enough to satisfy public and parliamentary pressure, or whether Parliament will decide it cannot wait for doctors to put their house in order, and that in any case some element of independent inquiry into complaints is necessary, are questions still to be answered.

N.T.

Ambulance crews

to the victim, perhaps shocked, cold, frightened, injured or ill, nothing is more welcome than the sight of the ambulance crew. As well as immediate help their presence offers hope. The ambulance crew ensures that the quality of the help is always improving, and the ambulance, therefore, grows stronger.

An increasing number of ambulance crews are being trained as paramedics. They are given training to enable them to carry out more advanced emergency treatment as the patient is en route from the scene of accident or place of illness to hospital.

The early minutes after an accident are often the vital ones and paramedic treatment in the ambulance or at the scene is saving lives.

Ambulance crews who have had advanced training set up

will have a paramedic in its crew.

London's ambulance service is the largest in the world. Its 2,700 staff provide cover for 10 million people in the Greater London area and answer more than 1,500 emergency calls a day. It has 1,000 vehicles, including more than 400 ambulances, and costs more than £17m a year to run. It has a sixth of the ambulance resources of England and Wales.

Blue-light jobs are, in a sense, the tip of the iceberg. The service carries out about 10,000 non-urgent jobs every day.

Ambulance crew training takes four and a half months.

The ambulance service is the fast link between accident or illness and treatment. There is also another link, the emergency bed service formerly run by the King's Fund trust and now since January 1 operated by the NHS.

This is a 24-hour service for family doctors. If a GP has a patient he thinks should go to hospital, he calls the emergency bed service. It gives details of the patient's condition.

The service now sets out to find a bed in a hospital which can provide the patient with the particular treatment he requires. Usually it is done in a matter of minutes and every effort is made to put the patient in a hospital close to his home.

The bed service summons an ambulance and the patient is soon on his way to a hospital where a bed is waiting and where details of his case are already known. So that staff are ready to treat or operate immediately. The service handles upwards of 600 calls a week and covers Greater London, Watford, Southend and Dartford.

T. F.

Training and manpower

Parkinson's Law brought a welcome touch of levity to the evidence submitted by the Royal College of Nursing of the United Kingdom to the Royal Commission on the National Health Service last year. Pointing out that the service absorbed 5.1 per cent of the workforce, the college said: "If the current rate of increase is extrapolated, by AD 2100 the whole workforce will be employed by the who have the National Health Service."

The British Medical Association, in its evidence, also emphasized the dangers of forecasting future manpower on the basis of present trends: "It is possible to demonstrate that given different assumptions concerning the variables in the medical manpower equation any number of different conclusions can be drawn."

Nevertheless, both bodies are urging the need for more data, both to analyse

present manpower and to plan for the future. But one man's datum is another man's paperwork; we live in a world where everyone wants information, as long as it is provided by somebody else.

In the cases of doctors and nurses, quick changes of policy are not easily translated into workers in hospitals, clinics and surgeries. Courses for student doctors last five years, and it can take almost as long to set up a new training scheme for nurses.

At present there is an annual growth rate of 3 per cent in doctors in hospital service and 1 per cent in general practice. The ministry would like to see these figures raised slightly, principally to fill gaps caused by the uneven distribution geographically of general practitioners, and to reduce reliance on doctors from overseas.

However, the Hospital

Junior Staff Committee believes there is a danger of producing a surplus of doctors, with young graduates facing unemployment comparable to that suffered by teachers. Nurses, on the other hand, report a shortage of suitable applicants for training.

In both professions, the manpower equation is complicated by the amount of time spent by trained staff during their careers on taking refresher courses or studying for further qualifications. This seems likely to expand, provided the Government grants the necessary leave and finance.

It is estimated that in a few years, about half the students coming out of medical schools as doctors will be women. Many will be lost to the service while they raise families, and they will probably require further training if they return to it later.

Mr David Rye, director of professional activities at the Royal College of Nursing, said there had been a marked decrease in the number of people coming forward for training, both for three-year and two-year courses. Because of demographic trends, any improvement seemed unlikely. However, the general employment situation had led to a substantial drop in the level of wastage during training.

When looking at manpower, we must take into account the changed workload, particularly in hospital, he said. Because patients spend less time in a hospital bed than in the past, they were more dependent on the nurses' skill during treatment. In addition, earlier discharge of patients meant increased demands on community nursing services.

This last point was emphasized in the college's evidence, to the Royal Commission, calling for the training of more health visitors and home nurses.

P.O.L.

Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter
The Times

The growth of unions in

THE BUPA HEALTH SERVICE

Check up on the independent medical sector and what it has to offer. You may be surprised.

1. In the five years from 1972 to 1977, the number of surgical beds in independent hospitals:
 - (a) Decreased by 21%? ☐
 - (b) Remained the same? ☐
 - (c) Increased by 28%? ☐

The answer is C. The independent sector is expanding and in this same period 19 new independent hospitals were opened.

2. How many surgical operations does the independent sector perform in a year?
 - (a) 150,000? ☐
 - (b) 5,240? ☐
 - (c) 420? ☐

The annual figure is 150,000 – ranging from minor operations to open-heart surgery.

3. Who provides the greatest number of independent surgical hospital beds in the UK?
 - (a) BUPA? ☐
 - (b) Private American organisations? ☐
 - (c) Nuffield Nursing Homes Trust? ☐

Nuffield Nursing Homes Trust, which provides 1,000 surgical beds, NNHT is a registered charity, established by BUPA in 1957. Today it operates 30 fully equipped hospitals throughout the country.



4. What does this picture show?
 - (a) A diseased potato? ☐
 - (b) The dark side of the moon? ☐
 - (c) A human abdomen? ☐

It is a cross-sectional scan of a human abdomen taken by one of the most advanced pieces of diagnostic equipment available today – BUPA's own EMI General Purpose Scanner, located at its London Medical Centre. BUPA also operates Medical Centres in Manchester and Glasgow, and a mobile screening unit for women.

5. How many people believe in the freedom to choose private treatment?
 - (a) Over 80% of the population? ☐
 - (b) Fewer than 40% of the population? ☐
 - (c) All the regulars of the Kings Arms, Long Acree? ☐

A recent NOP survey revealed that 85% of the population felt they should be free to choose the health care they wanted. More and more

people are beginning to realise that going independent doesn't mean jumping the queue but actually helps shorten it.

6. How much money has BUPA contributed to developing the independent sector's facilities?
 - (a) £50,000? ☐
 - (b) £980,000? ☐
 - (c) £13 million? ☐

BUPA has already made a unique contribution of £13 million of its investment income towards the development of independent surgical hospitals. In addition it has donated over £250,000 to medical research.

7. What proportion of its subscription income does BUPA pay out in benefits?
 - (a) More than 80%? ☐
 - (b) About 50%? ☐
 - (c) It's been a good year? ☐
 - (d) 10-15%? ☐

The percentage of subscription income surrendered to BUPA subscribers in benefits has averaged 83% more than any other private health

insurance organisation. And with a nationwide network of Branches claims are settled promptly and without fuss.

8. What is the main advantage of independent health care through BUPA?
 - (a) Treatment at a time to suit you? ☐
 - (b) A choice of consultant? ☐
 - (c) The privacy of your own hospital room? ☐
 - (d) Flexible visiting hours? ☐
 - (e) A personal telephone and television? ☐

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THE BUPA HEALTH SERVICE

Medicine torrent flows down British throats

by Pearce Wright

Have we developed an unreasonable expectation about the ability of the medical profession to cure all our ills? There seems reason to believe so from the way antibiotics, vaccines, therapeutic drugs, and devices (artificial pacemakers or high replacement), and new diagnostic methods and equipment are transferred from research to become adopted rapidly as a routine part of health care.

The success of developments with immunization and new drugs has encouraged the belief that a pill can be found for every disease. This attitude belies the remarkable research that has discovered within the past 30 years the vast majority of medicines in use. Medicines have progressed more in that period than in the previous 30 centuries, in the opinion of one government adviser.

The casual acceptance of these advances is reflected in another way in the present controversy over whooping cough vaccine. It shows that when a traditional scourge is being brought under control, yesterday's breakthrough can be reviled today for its dangers.

The spectacular reduction in deaths from prevention and treatment of infectious diseases coincided with the early years of the National Health Service. The success has meant that a torrent of medicines flows, as Aneurin Bevan forecast, down the throats of the British public. More difficult to predict was the present alarm of the administrators of the health service over the steadily rising bill for drugs, running at more than £540m a year.

Whereas the improved treatments have combated many illnesses among infants and the young, little or no improvement has been made in increasing life expectancy for men over 40 years of age. Heart disease and cancer still exact a high toll.

Although encouraging results have been obtained with new chemotherapy treatments using special antitumour agents, a formidable list of illnesses remains that cannot be treated adequately with drugs—including bronchitis, influenza, arthritis and rheumatism, hypertension, schizophrenia and the muscular dystrophies.

Thus there is plenty of scope in which the pharmaceutical industry can turn its skill in applied research, developing new products which have the size of market that leads to high profitability.

The National Health Service not only collided with the emergence of the large-scale modern drug industry—born out of the success of sulphonamides and antibiotics—but it has also presided over the consequent change

in the art of prescription by the physician. Previously, a general practitioner had a great familiarity with the cost and efficacy of each compound in their limited armory of drugs, and many doctors had their own dispensary.

Clearly it would be impossible and futile to expect the same experience with the thousands of preparations which now cascade on to the market: for many are near-identical versions of others, with minor advantages emphasized to make more attractive sales promotion.

An adverse result, is that prescription costs can vary greatly between doctors practising in the same area.

An estimate of costs by the Office of Health Economics suggests that £2 goes on to the patient, £1.36 to the physician, every time a patient consults his doctor. Various studies also have been done of the money spent on research and development by the pharmaceutical companies. It is evident that their particular brand of applied research and product development is becoming increasingly expensive.

One reason is that new and more effective compounds are increasingly hard to find. About 5,000 new compounds are synthesized each year in the chemistry laboratories of the typical large drug firm. Only a handful exhibit a potentially useful biological activity, and lengthy tests are needed to determine if

any of those 10 or 20 substances might make a therapeutic agent. Publicly the pharmaceutical industry weeps buckets over soaring costs. A recent issue of *Science* magazine suggested that \$54m and about eight years were needed for an American firm to bring one new drug on to the market. This evaluation accounted for total costs of a research programme which carried its proportion of the work on failures.

The question of drug safety regulations is an inevitable minefield, with the industry on one side attributing much of its higher costs to harsh legislation and many experts on the consumer side calling for tighter controls. In Britain

the Committee on the Safety of Medicines has brought a semblance of order to the subject, by checking the introduction of new substances at far too fast a rate for adequate testing of possible harmful side effects.

Even with thorough animal and human testing, no drug can ever be completely understood before being introduced into wide clinical use. For this reason the safety committee has devised a scheme for monitoring by doctors of unexpected reactions, to form the basis of an early warning system. The Thalidomide tragedy is perhaps the first incident to come to mind in considering the need for rigorous safety regulations.

But the experience with the pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine may carry more subtle lessons. Although it is known to produce some disturbing and adverse side-effects, including brain damage, convulsions, and a strange unexplained screaming phenomenon in some babies, the prevalence of these reactions is unknown because of unsatisfactory monitoring, differences between vaccines, uncertainties in diagnosis and other factors.

Even if procedures can be found for effective regulation and continued drug innovation to live harmoniously, a problem remains of the so-called "orphan drugs". This is the question of how to pay for both the research and the product development of compounds for treating rare illnesses, which will never repay the expense of bringing them to market. Of course there is a vast amount of non-industrial research.

Whereas applied research is the natural speciality of industry, really new ideas come from the fundamental research workers in universities, medical schools and research institutions. Some of these projects will assuredly produce possible treatments for rare disorders, leaving the dilemma of who is to do the commercial product development work.

Britain most of the fundational research is supported by the Medical Research Council which spends more than £50m a year on investigations including mental handicap, genetic disorder, deafness, eye defects, addition, cardiovascular diseases, cancer research, allergies, immunology, nutrition, arthritis, infectious diseases, the effects of environmental pol-

lutants, and an immense list of work in molecular biology, reproductive biology and other biomedical sciences. Some of these, like chemical therapy studies of treating tumours, can broaden into large-scale pharmaceutical development.

But the interesting trend, which a growing band of doctors and scientists is trying to encourage, is to combat some cancers, respiratory diseases, cardiovascular disorders, nutritional troubles and other ailments at a community level. This means, for example, devising "preventive" medicines by modifying the human environment, rather than accepting treatment of disease in the individual as an inevitable course of action. Only then might the original goal of the National Health Service be attained, in which the costs were not expected to level off after a few years, because the community was expected to become a healthier one.

A suggestion recently in the *Lancet*, that heart transplants for cure might be considered again in Britain, has focused attention on the basic dilemma of any health service allocating limited resources to provide good

health care to the public at reasonable costs.

The problem is particularly acute in medical instrumentation and bioengineering, both expanding, in which the application of advances in electronics, computers and materials technologies have brought a new dimension to the art of healing.

But the immense benefits obtained by the development of heart and lung machines, kidney dialysis units, and artificial hip joints have been bought at great expense. Difficult issues of an ethical nature have also been raised over apparatus that can support life after the brain has stopped working.

The expense involved in new medical technology is only one reason for the continually rising cost of health care. It is nevertheless a sizeable portion of the cost. For instance, the creation of intensive care units for coronary cases has been an immense success, but they also absorb substantial resources in terms of equipment and skilled people.

The most recent of the advanced medical technologies to come under scrutiny on cost-benefit arguments is the

revolutionary form of X-ray examination known as computed tomographic scanning (CT scanning). These devices combine radiographic and computer technologies to produce an image of soft tissue that is far in advance of quality of that available with conventional X-ray machines.

CT scanners and EMI, almost synonymous, because of the latter's pioneering work in this sector. The company has supplied more than 500 of the scanners in the world, more than 150 in the United States, 160 in Japan and 5 in Britain. Initially, scanners were introduced to examine the brain, but they now can make a analysis of any section of the body to identify an object down to a few millimetres in diameter.

Thus their role in screening programmes can be a great importance, together with systems for examining cervical smears and for ultra-sonic or thermographic mammography. But doubts have arisen about the use of these instruments because of the large capital outlay needed for a scanner. It could be upwards of £250,000.

The author is Science Editor The Times.



A human kidney in mid-transplant at Guy's Hospital, London. Photograph by Robin Laurance

Aim is to stretch the three score and ten

by Dr. Tony Smith

In Britain old age is the certified cause of death of fewer than 5,000 people a year—less than 1 per cent of the total mortality. Most people die of heart disease, cancer or stroke; and medical science is unlikely to change that. What has been achieved so far this century is a reduction in deaths in childhood and middle age; and the realistic target of medical research is the preservation of good health until the eighth decade for as many people as possible.

Technological medicine can claim some credit for the better health and better life expectancy of the present generation when compared with that of its grandparents. Tuberculosis and other major infectious diseases have been almost eliminated by a combination of vaccination and antibiotics—and by the better natural resistance to infection that goes with improved nutrition.

Advances in anaesthesia and surgery have transformed the chances of recovery for anyone accidentally injured; "spare part" surgery allows replacement of worn-out heart valves and joints; and transplantation provides the possibility of near-normal health for sufferers from kidney disease. Deafness and failing vision can now often be corrected. The mortality formerly associated with childbirth is now almost nil, and far fewer babies die in the critical first year of life.

Yet with all these achievements far too many people fail to reach their natural life span of 70 to 80 years. The causes of the foremost killing diseases of middle life are not mysteries: overeating, too little exercise, tobacco and alcohol are big contributors. Factors such as stress, heart disease, cancer of the lungs, bladder and other organs, bronchitis and stroke.

Important, as these environmental factors are, there are still many diseases whose cause remains profound mystery. Most of the common cancers, such as those of the breast, stomach and intestines remain unexplained in spite of vast efforts of research and many theories. Little certain is known of the primary causes of many chronic diseases including diabetes, multiple sclerosis, and even the process of aging itself.

CHILD CARE

Much of the emphasis in modern child care is on prevention. Better understanding of the defects underlying congenital abnormalities such as Down's syndrome (mongolism) and of familial diseases such as thalassaemia has combined with new techniques for taking samples of blood and amniotic fluid from the developing foetus to make possible their diagnosis early enough in pregnancy for termination to be feasible.

When there is a family history of inherited disease genetic counselling can often give practical guidance on the risks of the birth of an abnormal child. Later in pregnancy and during labour repeated monitoring gives the obstetrician early warning of any abnormality so that delivery may be necessary, be hastened by induction, or the baby may be delivered by Caesarian section. With these advances the mortality of newborn babies has been lowered progressively for the whole of this century, though British figures still lag behind those of many other European countries.

During infancy and the early school years again prevention is given priority. Vaccination against polio, diphtheria, tetanus, measles and rubella has reduced their incidence to low levels; sadly, however, recent uncracked adverse

publicity about whooping cough vaccination has led to a drop in the number of infants being immunized.

The recent outbreak of the paralytic poliomyelitis in the Netherlands has how false given by the apparent disappearance of a disease. Each generation of non-immunized children is born vulnerable to these diseases, and protection can be given by a full vaccination. In many parts of the country there are no adequate arrangements for making sure that unvaccinated children are detected and offered a vaccine.

The report of Professor Court's committee of inquiry into child health spelt out in detail the defects of our present system, but its recommendations have mostly been shelved by the Department of Health and Social Security. In particular, too little is done to identify and treat behavioural and physical disorders among children in deprived inner city areas. Even where problems such as delay in reading are identified, early enough treatment is often not available.

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

The patients attending a cardiologist's hospital clinic today are very different from those seen 30 years ago. Then the dominant disorder was rheumatic heart disease with its crippling effect on the heart valves. Nowadays rheumatic fever has become rare and valvular disease is correctable by surgery. The children attending are those born with heart defects. One in every hundred children has congenital heart disease; a few are so severely affected that they cannot survive and others have minor defects that cause them no symptoms, but about five in every thousand babies will need surgical repair of their hearts if they are to grow up healthy.

Coronary heart disease is now dominant in middle age. It is by far the most common cause of death in men aged between 40 and 60, and it is becoming more frequent in women. Despite all the research efforts the mortality from coronary thrombosis remains high, mainly because most deaths occur before medical treatment can be given. At present efforts are being concentrated on prevention—persuading adults of all ages to take more exercise, less fat and carbohydrates, and stop smoking—and on the treatment of survivors of heart attacks by drugs and in some cases surgery to bypass the blocked coronary arteries.

The second major cardiovascular problem is hypertension—raised blood pressure. Someone whose blood pressure is higher than normal may have no symptoms of it but he or she has a substantially increased risk of stroke, heart disease or kidney failure. In contrast to a few years ago, the drug treatment of raised blood pressure now causes few side effects, and one of the medical priorities in the immediate future should be a campaign to detect more of the millions of men and women with unrecognized raised blood pressure.

CANCER

Cancer experts are now generally agreed that 80 per cent of human cancers are attributable to environmental carcinogens—chemicals which initiate the malignant change in a cell's make-up that leads to the growth and eventual spread of a cancer. The best known carcinogen is tobacco smoke, but there is equally convincing evidence that alcohol, asbestos, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons, and coal tar are also cancer-causing agents. Cancer is more common in people who are overweight and those in growing adolescence whose diet is high in fat. It is one factor in several of the common cancers of the digestive tract. Clearly there

is a vast potential for prevention in the control of cancer.

Meanwhile, the prospects for cure are improving after several decades of near-stagnation—in cancer mortality rates. The way ahead was shown in a series of research studies in Britain and the United States on childhood leukaemia. Twenty years ago the diagnosis of leukaemia was a death sentence; now there is an almost even chance of cure from a combination of drugs and radiotherapy.

Modern cancer treatment is being combined with surgical removal of the main tumour in a whole range of common cancers—breast, stomach, intestine, lung, bone, and skin. Promising results, and new techniques have reduced the unpleasant side effects of radiotherapy. At the other end of the spectrum more attention is being paid to the control of pain and suffering in patients dying of cancer (and other progressive disorders).

CHRONIC DISEASES

Invalidism in early adult life is often the result of a chronic disease affecting only one organ or vital system—arthritis, diabetes, asthma, skin diseases, and kidney disease. The causes of these chronic disorders remain enigmatic, but some at least are due to a malfunction of the body's immune defence systems. Antibodies (whose normal function is to destroy microorganisms and other external threats) are formed against vital structures within the body, leading to inflammation and eventual destructive scarring.

This auto-immune process can be slowed by drug treatment, but no specific cures are yet available. Even so, symptoms can often be relieved by "high technology medicine", extending from replacement of damaged joints by plastic or metal substitutes to transplantation of healthy kidneys or livers to replace those destroyed by disease.

Another welcome recent initiative is the growth of self-help groups for people with specific diseases (such as psoriasis or multiple sclerosis) who can exchange useful practical information, arrange to meet specialists for question-and-answer sessions, and even initiate and finance research.

Nevertheless, the long-term care of patients who

are severely disabled leaves much to be desired. Some authorities have made big efforts to provide their handicapped citizens with the modifications to their houses that can transform their lifestyle; others have remained indifferent. There are still far too few residential units for the young chronic sick, many of whom are still put into geriatric units for lack of any alternative.

GERIATRIC CARE

In common with other technically advanced countries, Britain has an aging population. Thirty years ago the over-65s made up only 10 per cent of the population; now they form 15 per cent. As the body ages, every organ and system slows down and loses its reserve capacity, so that infections and injuries that would be trivial for a young adult may be life-threatening for a person aged 70. However, in any one individual different organs age at different paces, and when only, for example, the kidneys or the heart is failing, effective treatment is often possible.

In East Anglia, where people live longer than anywhere else in Britain, it is common to find a surgical hospital ward filled with 70-year-olds recovering from operations that should give them another 10 years or more of useful life. Most of the elderly patients are fit and active and need no featherbedding; but a substantial minority does develop chronic disorders which make it dependent upon professional care.

The main medical problems of old age are dementia, stroke, and mobility disorders. Dementia—loss of the intellectual faculties—occurs when the brain ages faster than the rest of the body. It affects about 10 per cent of people aged 65, rising to 20 per cent at the age of 80. The condition is progressive and at present irreversible, leading to loss of memory and impaired speech, and eventually the patient becomes unable to look after himself and is dependent on nursing care.

The Medical Research Council is trying to find out more about the cause of dementia, but for the foreseeable future it threatens a growing burden on the National Health Service. By the mid-1980s, as many as 700,000 old people with dementia in need of care.

The incidence of stroke rises with age, and each year nearly 200,000 men and women in Britain have a stroke, most of them aged over 70. About half of these die within a few days or weeks, but the remainder recover, usually to be left with some disability. Rehabilitation services are already strained in attempting to help these patients to recover the use of their paralysed limbs; as the population rises the pressures will inevitably increase.

The same is true of the arthritis, Parkinsonism, and other chronic diseases which often limit the mobility of old persons; again as the numbers of patients continue to rise the services will be stretched even further.

PRIORITIES

The growing numbers of old people in need of either specific treatment (such as replacement of an arthritic hip joint, so restoring mobility to someone confined to his own house) or of some form of residential care will inevitably demand a large proportion of NHS resources. Yet the demands of the young and middle-aged will also continue to grow: for almost every disability remediable to some extent by high technology medicine, whose innovations have affected treatment of common conditions, such as cancer and deafness, as much as the more dramatic cases of heart, liver or kidney failure.

Every western country is facing the prospect of an ever-increasing share of its national wealth being spent on medical care. At present health planners are pinning their faith on increased emphasis on prevention; but a healthier population will still develop its illnesses, even if they are postponed for 10 years or more.

The unanswered question is whether society can continue even to attempt to provide the best that medicine can offer to the whole population. As more and more medical problems are found to have expensive solutions (such as dialysis or transplantation for kidney disease and bypass surgery for coronary disease) we shall be forced either to increase spending towards 10 per cent of even 20 per cent of the nation's total output, or to introduce some form of rationing by price, by age or some other criteria of merit.

The author is Medical Correspondent, The Times.

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THREE FAULTS FOR REFUSING

Mr Callaghan's decision not to have a general election this autumn will have taken most people very much by surprise. Such an expectation had built up that they will have turned to television sets yesterday evening principally to see which date he had selected. Would it be late September or early October? That expectation had developed with at least the acquiescence of Downing Street. Had the Prime Minister wished to cool the speculation during the summer his representatives could probably have done so without too much difficulty. There is no evidence that they made the attempt.

This sudden dashing of expectations has its agreeably comic side, but it must naturally strengthen the assumption that he has refrained from going to the country now because he fears that the party would have been very uncertain. By holding on he may hope to gain the benefit of the new electoral register that comes into force in February (as Labour are less adept in garnering the postal votes it is to their advantage to have as fresh a register as possible) and to be helped by any improvement in the public mood in the meanwhile. At the worst, the Government will enjoy about another six months in office.

But such evidence as is now available does not suggest that the public mood will improve. The economic indicators are at least as favourable now as they are likely to be then. Inflation

is expected to rise in the coming months and there will be all the uncertainties of another round of wage bargaining. If that gets seriously out of hand Labour will have lost their most persuasive argument: that they are better able to control inflation because they know how to get on with the unions.

There is also the element of accident against which no government can be proof. But whereas for most governments that is simply one of the risks of life, it becomes a more serious matter for an administration that seems to be clinging on to office beyond general expectation. Every time something goes wrong, whether it is really the fault of the Government or not, there is the danger that it will strengthen the impression of an administration that is tired and has lost its touch.

There could also be some benefit to the Opposition. The run-up to the expected announcement of a general election has been like a dress rehearsal for the preparations for their campaign. There is now a period of some months to put right some of the things that did not look too good; in particular the Conservatives need to make sure that their propaganda genuinely follows their policy—not the case with the last two party political broadcasts.

The Prime Minister is running another risk which is more uncertain: that the Government will be defeated in the House of Commons on a vote of confidence and be forced to go to the polls in humiliating circumstances at a

time not of their choosing. After the end of the Lib-Lab pact and the Liberals' declared intention of voting against the Queen's Speech at the beginning of the next session, it has been widely assumed that the Government face almost certain defeat on this occasion.

But it may not be as simple as that. There is a danger of all assessments being too much influenced by the experience of the pact with the Liberals. Such a pact guarantees a safe passage to a minority government: but the absence of such an arrangement does not assure the Government's defeat. Mr Callaghan can proceed with the Queen's Speech, without securing any deals, and simply hope that he will be saved because the Scottish and Welsh Nationalists—who between them have more votes than the Liberals in the present House—do not want a general election before the devolution referendums. These will presumably now be held before the end of the year.

But even if this calculation is correct, the Prime Minister will still have condemned the country to probably another half-year of pre-election tension. Whichever way one would like the result to go when the time comes, that cannot be in the national interest. Many sectors of British life, especially the business community, will now be operating for some six months in an atmosphere of political anti-climax. Decisions will be postponed, initiatives delayed to suit the convenience of politicians.

THE GRAVE CRISIS IN IRAN

It is already abundantly clear that the change of government in Iran, less than a fortnight ago, has brought no solution to the profound political crisis through which that country is passing. Yesterday over a hundred thousand people, in the capital alone, took part in a mass demonstration directed expressly against the regime and expressly forbidden by it. Indeed figures of "several hundred thousand" have been given, and not the least novel aspect of the situation is that they were given by newspapers published in Tehran itself. One effect of the change of government has clearly been a relaxation of press censorship. But the timing and manner of this, as of other gestures of liberalization and concessions to religious feeling (such as the closure of casinos and the restitution of the Islamic calendar), make it a sign of weakness rather than of strength.

The Shah, who for many years had appeared as firmly in control of his country as any ruler in the world, now sees his authority crumble. Last month he celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of his triumphant return from exile after the overthrow of Dr Mossadegh. Now he must be haunted by the fear that the film of those events is being rerun backwards. Last week, when welcoming Chairman Hua Kuo-feng, he had to cancel the planned motorcade through the streets and cross his capital by helicopter. For the moment the streets no longer belong to him, but to his exiled adversary, Ayatollah Khomeini, without whose support a solution to the crisis scarcely seems possible. And the Ayatollah's demand is for the departure of the Shah and the abolition of the monarchy.

Western governments can only view these events with great unease. Iran is a country of enormous strategic and economic importance which for the past twenty-five years has belonged firmly to the Western camp. It

is true that the Shah in 1973-74 played a leading part in forcing the fourfold rise in oil prices, which was a severe blow to Western interests. But he used the revenue thus raised to purchase weapons, machinery, technology, and consumer goods for his country from the West, and to force the pace of an economic development which gave ample scope to Western investment; and while he demanded a high price for oil, he never threatened to cut off the supply. In military terms Iran has been a loyal member of CENTO and has deliberately taken on itself the succession to Britain as guarantor of stability and master of Soviet expansion in the Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

Western governments and businesses have taken full advantage of the opportunities offered them by the Shah, and are uneasily conscious that in so doing they have associated themselves with a regime that could be extremely ruthless in handling its opponents. Iran has been regularly cited by Amnesty International as one of the worst offenders in the matter of political imprisonment and torture, and has maintained what after the KGB must be the most widely feared secret police in the world.

Those who worry about repression have generally consoled themselves with the thought that the victims were confined in the main to a left-wing intellectual fringe, and that the mass of the people were grateful to the Shah for his efforts in developing the country, making it more prosperous, and breaking the power of the feudal landlords. But it is now clear that dislike, even hatred, for the regime got very much wider than that. When the masses, as in so many other Muslim countries, are not Marxist but religious feeling, indeed many Iranians would bracket the Shah and the Communists together, as people ready to turn Iran into a satellite of one of the superpowers, to impose on it an alien culture, ideology, and set

of values, and thus to destroy its national and cultural identity.

The Shah has always sought to present himself as steering a reasonable course between two extremes: of revolution and black reaction; and he has tried to discredit both by accusing them of collaborating with each other. The truth appears considerably more complex. The Marxists—whether orthodox pro-Soviet communists or the more actively violent groups—are indeed ready to exploit almost any source of discontent with the regime. But the religious leaders in the Iranian Liberation Movement and the heirs of Mossadegh grouped in the National Front, have consistently refused to collaborate with Marxists.

By contrast it is clear that there has been an increasing convergence between these two groups—the conservative religious and the liberal nationalist opposition. Both object strongly to what they see as Iran's subordination to the West, and especially to the United States, and both have been the victims of the regime's repressive machinery. Thus the religious leaders have become progressively more liberal and constitutionalists in their demands, while the nationalists have shown more sympathy for religious grievances against certain symbols of Western "corruption" such as cinemas and casinos. The female student who insists on wearing a veil, or the male student piously telling his rosary, can often be categorized as conservative when they express their political feelings.

Such an opposition inevitably lacks coherence when it comes to proposing a positive alternative to the status quo. But the Shah's efforts to exploit this fact have been backfiring, serving only to emphasize the extent and diversity of an opposition still united by hostility to himself. It is not easy to see how he can now resolve the crisis. But nor can the West view his failure to do so with any but the most profound concern.

Fungus disease in wheat

From Dr Robert Wigglesworth
Sir, The article from your Agricultural Correspondent, Hugh Clayton, in the 18 December 1977, describes an alarming situation of increasing fungus disease of wheat called "Take All". Some years ago there was some work in New Zealand which suggested that the presence of high nitrate concentrated in soils inhibited a complex soil cycle called the "Carbide Cycle" which was associated with an increase in fungus in the soil.

May it not be that the continuing high applications of inorganic nitrate to all the soil of this country could be associated with the present increase, extent and virulence of fungus diseases such as "Take All" and Dutch Elm Disease, etc? It would be interesting to know if any other work has confirmed the findings from New Zealand.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT WIGGLESWORTH,
Senior Consultant Paediatrician,
Kettering and District
General Hospital,
Rothwell Road,
Kettering, Northamptonshire.

Citizen's band radio

From Lord Young of Dartington
Sir, It was sad indeed to read in your columns (September 2) that the Home Secretary has written to the Duke of Kent (Chairman of the National Electronics Council) to say he is unconvinced by the case for Citizens' Band (CB) radio. I only hope he will change his mind and show that he does not, like so many of his predecessors, consider that in Britain the state does not belong to the people but the government.

The outstanding advantage of CB radio is that it enables anyone with a low-cost radio transceiver to call over the air for help in an emergency. The set can be carried in a car, and is used by sick people in a way that telephones cannot, nor any of the other alarm systems designed for householders. In the United States, where CB radio has flourished to the satisfaction of consumers and industry alike, Channel 9, as it is called, is reserved just for such emergencies. So it could be in Britain, with a consequent widespread relief of individual anxiety. The great merit of CB is that it helps people to "band together" to help each other.

Faithfully,
YOUNG OF DARTINGTON,
Chairman, Mutual Aid Centre Ltd.,
19 Victoria Park Square, E2,
September 4.

Farm workers' wages

From Mr Robert Saunders
Sir, Mr Tom Listerick (August 30) must not be allowed to get away with the suggestion that farm workers' wages are low because they have a weak union. Those of us who serve on the Agricultural Wages Board, regardless of which interest we represent, would like to see the industry has got the ability to pay them. That the industry has not got this ability is due to the action of the Government, which Mr Listerick supports, in manipulating the green pound in order to keep the returns to British agriculture well below those received by the counter-parts elsewhere in the EEC.

Serving on the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers' Board, and this situation will not change; only a change in Govern-

ment thinking and policy, either by this Government or a successor, can enable British farmers to pay their workers the wages they deserve and which we would wish to pay. They would then become customers for a greater volume of industrial products that could be produced by some of those currently unemployed.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT SAUNDERS,
Priar Mayne Farm,
Broadmayne,
Dorchester,
Dorset.

Clothed buildings

From Mr S. E. Alsop
Sir, Could I second Mr McKean's suggestion (article, August 28) that buildings should be clothed—especially with virginia creeper. One argument against it is that it rots the brickwork but in 55 years of brickmaking experience I have never seen a brick adversely affected by creeper. "A home for birds and insects" says Mr McKean. And it is also a source of food for the honey bee, seven of the eight walls of our T-shaped house are covered and every year during the last week of August they are a-buzz with foraging honey bees.

I would estimate that in a completely built-up area there are one acre of vertical walls per 10 acres of ground and one stock of bees per 100 acres would gather a sizeable crop from this source.

Yours faithfully,
S. E. ALSOP,
Cherry Orchard Cottage,
Whittemoor Road,
Kendalworth,
Warwickshire.

Trade unions and productivity

From Mr Allan Cottrell

Sir, I have been following the argument in your pages with interest. It raises a crucial question for British society which will have to be pursued further. It is undeniable that union strength at the point of production—the phenomenon of "negative workers' control"—has been an important factor in holding back the growth of productivity in this country, but what is to be done about it?

Formally, there are two alternatives. Either the workers' resistance in the factories is somehow smashed or demobilised, or else the strength of that movement is somehow channelled into a "positive" control, is the workers' organisations take initiatives in the restructuring of industry and the improvement of productivity (and the quality of the product). Let us consider these alternatives for a moment. The first alternative, the dismantling of the workers' ability to resist "rationalisation", could theoretically be achieved in one of two ways.

(i) The government and employers could combine in an all-out attack on the unions. Leaving aside the desirability of such a move, and the consequences for democracy, that seems unlikely to be successful (cf the recent Tory study).

(ii) The workers could be brought to realise that (in your words) "unions cause poverty, they would do up industrial unionism or self-interest. As Mr Radice observed (September 5) this is fantasy. Workers won't surrender even their "negative" control over production for a vague promise of prosperity in five years' time, if no other conditions are also fulfilled.

This leaves us with the second option: the difficult task of fostering a new kind of initiative on the part of the workers. As you rightly argue in response to Mr Radice, if industrial democracy means only the institutionalisation of the workers' existing ability to resist management, then it will solve nobody's problem. We are talking then of a new kind of industrial democracy, in which workers will have a genuine stake in industrial development. I say "genuine", because workers are rightly wary of participation schemes which confer responsibility without real power.

The necessary conditions for this new industrial democracy would include important changes in many areas of society: the conversion of equity shares into debentures and the abolition of enterpriseism; the conversion of enterprises into cooperatives owned by their employees. Workers would have to be trained in new skills and new attitudes. The right to elect directors. These changes would give the workers a real incentive to modernise and improve work practices, and if this potential were released it seems likely that the improvement in industrial performance would be immense.

Bitter medicine no doubt, for certain circles in our society, but can you, Sir, argue an alternative? Yours sincerely,
ALLAN COTTRELL,
54 Blacket Place,
Edinburgh,
September 6.

From Mr Colin A. Maynell

Sir, Illuminating though I found your issue of September 5 concerning the correlation between the pro-

ductivity of various segments of British industry and the extent of unionization, I feel that a valuable point was missed in the development of your argument.

Productivity may be high in the agricultural and retail segments of our economy and presumably also in British-managed concerns in third world countries, but the levels of income of the workers as distinct from management in these segments are notoriously low. Many of those who work in the high levels of productivity found in the industries quoted in your column take a disproportionately low share of the wealth generated.

The trade unions in the British car and steel industries may at least lay claim to have improved the standard of living of their members above that of workers in the agricultural and retail segments, albeit at lowered levels of productivity. With the current disparity between effort and reward and with the longer term future in doubt in many sectors of the British economy, trade unions cannot be condemned out of hand for operating in a short term manner their strategy of raising their members' standard of living at the expense of productivity.

However, nobody can seriously believe that trade union leaders and the majority of the rank and file do not understand that you cannot consume what you don't produce. A solution to our current problems must therefore include closer co-operation between trade unions and management and a bridging of the gulf of distrust presently dividing them in order to find common ground and to make longer term decisions for greater mutual benefit (as do many of the participating elements of industry in the countries mentioned in the last paragraph of your leader).

The conclusion to be drawn from the facts highlighted by your leader must therefore be in accord with that of Mr Radice (Letters, September 5). We must have more industrial democracy, when trade union power and responsibility can add strength and substance to the struggle to rebuild rather than destroy our failing industries, to improve the future standard of living of all in a secure and more than ephemeral way.

Yours sincerely,
COLIN A. MAYNELL,
28 Freeman's Close,
Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire,
September 5.

From the Director General of the Engineering Employers' Federation
Sir, Professor Kennaway makes a good point about the need in many British companies for better design. But it is not fair to lay this defect entirely at the door of management. The management has to spend far more time on labour problems and time used in that way cannot also be available for other purposes. Never was it truer to say that time is money.

Trade union and shopfloor attitudes do delay and discourage the introduction of improvements by turning every design—and method—change into an issue for argument.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
ANTHONY FRODSHAM,
Director General,
Engineering Employers' Federation,
Broadway House,
Tottenham, London, N16 9JL,
September 6.

The Moscow Olympics

From Mr Nicholas Elliott

Sir, We must, regrettably, accept that the Games are entangled in sport. It is therefore a pity that the country outside the Iron Curtain is unwilling to compete against South Africa but to be willing to do so against the Soviet Union.

We must, I fear, also accept that nearly all such countries will be prepared to compete in the Olympic Games in Moscow. There is however a balance sheet that can be taken for which there is a precedent from the winter Olympics held at Garmisch-Partenkirchen in 1936 under Nazi Germany. (For I see no difference between the villainies of Nazism and of Communism—each

has an equal contempt for human rights.) When my friend Peter Luan competed in the downhill and slalom at Garmisch, he was asked as a matter of principle, to take part in the opening ceremony and procession in front of Hitler. He was, I believe, the only athlete in either the winter or summer Games to show such strength of character.

I wonder therefore if any athletes from outside the Iron Curtain, if their consciences permit them to compete in Moscow, will at least have the integrity to boycott the opening ceremony which anyway has no sporting significance? Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS ELLIOTT,
White's,
St James's, SW1,
August 24.

Decline of the village

From the Reverend Giles Hunt

Sir, Your correspondent Mr E. F. Cartwright (August 31) is right in pointing out that the village has ceased to be a community centre as well as a place of worship; and right to point out that churches could again be used more than they often are as a focus for village activities.

Such history is a bit shaky. The practice of consecrating churchyards (something that has a legal as well as religious significance) was not started by high church Victorians; and if he believes that churchyards were normally used in the middle ages for common grazing, how does he explain the enclosures that ordered yews (vital for the longbow and thus for national defence, but deadly poison for sheep and cattle) should be grown in churchyards?

This is not merely a historical quibble. It was because churches and churchyards were recognised as "hallowed ground" that their use by the community worked so well. One of the worst problems with community centres and village halls is that because they are felt to belong to nobody, or because there is no respect for property, users cause damage; thus (for instance) the village hall committee have to ban the youth club and one other village activity disappears. Greater use of churches for village activities is a good and important idea, but it is not a panacea and needs to be carefully administered.

Yours faithfully,
GILES HUNT,
Barrowby Vicarage,
Roxton,
Hertfordshire,
August 31.

From Mr G. C. S. Curtis

Sir, Concern has been expressed by your correspondents that the village has become a dormitory. Was it ever anything else? Since the elimination of the weaver only the

blacksmith, the carpenter, publican, and shopkeeper have actually made their living in the village. Before the farming, reclamation of the sixties the farm worker cycled or walked from the village to his job, often in another parish. Nowadays, if he has no car or his son has a seat in a shared car to a factory in the nearby town, his journey takes little longer than the ride or trudge to the farm.

It would save time and expense if a system of industrial allotments could be devised suitable for small factories outside villages. But there would need to be discipline by which an expanding business could be moved to an industrial estate before its traffic demands exceeded rural road capacity. However, human nature is perverse. Where a factory exists in a village too often the hands come from everywhere else.

The newcomers to the village—provided they are not too many—take their places without friction and play their part in its activities from the church to the cricket field. In this place we owe the survival of the school to them. Incidentally, too much is made of the decline of religious life. Many country churches have, Sunday by Sunday, more communicants than ever before.

A population of 500/600 is necessary for a vigorous community life, supported by a school and sub-post office. Planners are tending to encourage development in villages which already have as many strangers as they can digest, leaving smaller communities to languish in the deprivation which accompanies a low population.

Yours truly,
GERALD CURTIS,
Howes,
Great Sampford,
Saffron Walden,
Essex,
September 3.

Fire regulations in historic buildings

From Lord James of Rusholme

Sir, Over the past few years my Commission has become increasingly concerned about the intractability with which fire regulations can be pressed by fire officers and in consequence enforced by local authorities: we are particularly concerned about the effects of this practice on historic buildings.

This does not mean that we are unaware of the dangers of fire, nor uncaring about the fate of the buildings and their occupants. But the loss of life by fire is an emotive matter, and the aim of regulations appears to be that no one shall ever die as a result of this. This is, of course, an admirable aim, but it demands levels of precaution quite out of proportion with those taken against other risks. An attempt to achieve even remotely comparable safety levels in the field of traffic would put an end to our present transport systems. Can one imagine a system of precautions which would make it impossible to fall from the platform of a crowded London station (though in fact this happens only rarely); to fall down the stairs of a swaying London bus; to step from a pavement under passing traffic?

This rigorous interpretation of new fire regulations can call for extensive structural alterations even in recently erected buildings, but in many historic buildings (which of course are not simply the great country houses but many university buildings, museums, art galleries and libraries) the results cannot only be prohibitively costly but appallingly destructive of the historic and visual qualities of the building. Such regulations can make it necessary to seal off staircases with smoke lobbies, to chop up fireproof divisions and to install auxiliary fire stairs.

This means that owners faced with such destruction and expenditure will have no choice but to close their buildings to the public.

It is of interest to note that in the many historic buildings of the University of Oxford which have

been occupied by thousands of students for hundreds of years only one death by fire appears to have been recorded in the last 400 years. Moreover in all pre-1800 buildings in Britain other than private houses, in 1974, which we are given to understand was statistically a typical year, only two deaths from fire were recorded, and one of these was the result of a bomb incident.

It seems to the Commission therefore that the risk taken by the public in using such buildings is very small indeed; it is in fact negligible when compared with the risks taken on the road to get to them. We therefore suggest that clearly displayed notices warning the public of the risks they might be taking could be considered an adequate precaution. We also feel strongly that some system of appeal should be instituted which will make it possible for building owners to take the problem to a higher authority than that at which decisions are at present taken.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES OF RUSHOLME, Chairman,
Royal Fine Art Commission,
2 Carlton Gardens, SW1,
September 3.

From Mr Valentine Walsh

Sir, As an American I noticed something on leaving a restaurant the other night that I feel might be noted by Britain or at least by the fire department in the interests of public safety. I found myself, on attempting to leave a crowded restaurant, trapped between people pushing from behind and a glass door that would only open inward, in front of me it took considerable reorganization of bodies to give me sufficient room to open the door. Had these people been in a panic I seriously doubt that I would have managed to find my way out of the restaurant. It is a fire regulation enforced by law in America that doors in public places open outward; would this not be a sensible idea for Britain?

Yours faithfully,
VALENTINE WALSH,
70 Oakley Street, SW3,
August 28.

Massacre in Rhodesia

From Mr P. H. Methuen

Sir, The recent incident involving the Rhodesian soldiers who killed still further evidence, if indeed this were needed, of the determination and single-mindedness of Mr Nkomo, and confirms the excellence of Dr Owen's judgement in backing him to lead the new Zimbabwe.

It was not Mr Nkomo's fault that the field commander failed to kill all the survivors of the crash, and thus exposed him and Dr Owen to the condemnation of decadent, sentimental international opinion. No doubt the matter has been dealt with appropriately.

Mr Mugabe will have to do better than a few unsuspecting missionaries if he is to overtake Mr Nkomo in the esteem of Dr Owen and retain the support of the World Council of Churches. Yours faithfully,
P. H. METHUEN,
6 Warwick Square, SW1,
September 6.

From Mr Geoffrey Smith

Sir, Dr E. G. Nisbet (August 23) rightly stresses that there are enormous numbers of "refugees" not from their country, but from their homes inside Rhodesia/Zimbabwe for this is a country at war. He asks concerning their need, "Is it not the duty of the British Churches and the World Council of Churches to care to this?" It is, Christian Care, an organiza-

tion supported by both the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches, has provided relief to those in "protected villages" since 1975, as well as fulfilling its mandate to help distressed and their families. The organization is currently providing assistance to displaced people in many parts of the country. The British Churches, through Christian Aid, have already supplied £63,700 for this work. Last year the World Council of Churches sent £100,000 to Christian Care; already this year the Council has sent £50,000. Christian Aid knows of the deteriorating situation described by Dr Nisbet, and hopes shortly to increase its response.

Both the person displaced within the country and the person who flees from it are victims of the war. The needs of the camps of refugees in Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia are as pressing as those within the country. One of my colleagues saw this for herself when she recently visited a camp for 5,000 young refugee girls in Zambia. To their need we have made a response, too. Christian Aid, as the instrument of the British Churches, will continue to respond to needs both within and outside Rhodesia/Zimbabwe. Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY SMITH, Chairman,
Africa Committee,
Christian Aid,
PO Box No. 1,
London SW5,
September 5.

Ordinance Survey maps

From Mr John Wright

Sir, Like many other users of the Ordnance Survey's products for public and social purposes, Mrs Robin Lewis in today's letter (August 29) suggests that the problem is to ensure that a proportion (somewhere about one tenth of one per cent) of the huge sums involved in property transactions and in changes large enough to require planning permission are specifically credited to the Ordnance Survey. Whether this requires new charges, or comes out of existing ones like stamp duty, is for the politicians and accountants to decide; but it should apply equally to private and public owners and could be passed on if necessary by the latter in minute increases in the rents.

If this was done, the true cost of the Ordnance Survey's main contribution to the nation would then be seen to be borne by those who are benefiting from it and also making it necessary—and the prices of its products could then be adjusted not by market and other self-defeating commercial considerations, but so as to ensure their maximum use to the benefit of us all.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WRIGHT,
The Paddock,
Eppingham,
Surrey,
August 29.

The Constables

From Mr John Kenworthy-Browne

Sir, The picture in question, *Near Stoke-by-Nayland*, is by any standard a beautiful work. How then can we tell Mr Howard (letter, September 4) that it does matter who painted it? As regards its monetary value, many people will share his impression, but we know that the art market is not governed only by aesthetic values.

In one sense its authenticity is important like that of a relic or memento. This, however, is not the principal issue. The business of an art historian is not to put labels on pictures, but to investigate the processes of creation of works of art. Here is the revelation of a little-known painter, and not only that, but doubts many others will need to be reassessed and placed in a quite different context. As a result of the art historian's work, Mr Howard may, (if he presses) gain a much greater insight into the work than he will have merely by gazing at it narrowly.

There is more in a name than he realizes.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KENWORTHY-BROWNE,
12 Hollywood Road, SW10,
September 4.

Counting blessings

From Mr Leslie Thomas

Sir, After an all night delay in Venice, and in the company of air line passengers who had suffered much longer frustrations, I arrived at Gatwick Airport to be confronted by a traffic census at the airport exit. Is it possible that our solicitous authorities were checking to see that we had all arrived safely back, or could this be someone's idea of a joke? Yours faithfully,
LESLIE THOMAS,
Venards House,
North Corley,
Near Fordingbridge,
Hampshire,
August 29.

Amax rebuff to Socal's \$1,600m bid

any as much as £100,000. A considerable sum of money for valuations that may not, for the reasons above, be of any great help.

The Report and Accounts were adopted.

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|--------|----|---|---|
| Altmatt London Properties | 17 | ICI | 18 | per takes place it will create | the power effectively to |
| Daejan Holdings | 22 | Rotark | 17 | in the United States Pan American USA incorporated. | the merger, although the decision rests with Pr |

stock, it stands to make a handsome profit now if it decides to sell its shares to Pan Am.

National bitterly opposes the bid by Texas International.

March, 1979, I anticipate :—
a) A rent roll in excess of £5½m.

the United States can
American USA incorporated.

[illegible]

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|-----------------------|------------|---------------------------|
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| | | Daejan Holdings |
| | | ICI |
| | | Rorork |

Approval for Yorkshire canal widening

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Approval for a £10m development scheme on the canal system in south Yorkshire is expected to be announced by the Department of the Environment today.

The scheme, which has been the subject of protracted and often bitter exchanges between its sponsor, the British Waterways Board and Whitehall for over 10 years, will mark the first major waterway improvement scheme in Britain for more than 70 years.

Under the scheme, the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation (SSYN) will be widened and deepened along a 35-kilometre stretch between Doncaster and Rotherham. This will enable barges of up to 400 tons to penetrate into the industrial heartland of south Yorkshire, with barges of up to 700 tons able to navigate as far as Mexborough.

At present navigation is limited to barges of up to 90 tons as far as Doncaster.

When first mooted in 1966-67 the scheme was costed at about £2m. The latest scheme is a modified version of the original plan, and the Department of the Environment will submit about one-third of the funds required. In addition, the European Regional Development Fund is expected to provide a further one-third of the cost in the form of an interest-free grant. The balance will be met by the Waterways Board from borrowings.

Official 1978 trade forecast put export growth well below target

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

The Chancellor's hopes of maintaining last year's strong rise in the volume of exports in general, and the increase in the value of exports, which he called the "main positive influence on demand", appear to have been dashed.

Forecasts released yesterday by the Department of Trade, and based on Whitehall's regular survey of major exporters, indicate that export volume in 1978 will advance by around 4 per cent over 1977, compared with the rise of 8.1 per cent recorded last year.

This figure emerges from parallel forecasts that the volume of total exports is expected to show an increase

of around 4 per cent on a seasonally adjusted basis between the two halves of 1978. In the first quarter of 1979 some slowing down in even this rate of growth is predicted.

In his Budget forecast, the Chancellor stressed that future trends were difficult to judge, but the Treasury was looking for growth in the volume of exports ranging between 5.5 per cent and 7 per cent.

Although the Department of Trade's regular survey of export prospects has to be treated with caution, it has been proving a fairly reliable indicator to trends. Some 61 major exporters accounting for about one-third of Britain's

total exports provided data for the latest forecasts during July and August.

Other main features of the latest results are that big companies expect the volume of exports in the second half of 1978 to be around 14 per cent higher than a year earlier.

These look good but must be seen in the light of the comparatively low figures in the fourth quarter of 1977 and the first quarter of this year.

The latest figures of price increases compared with a year earlier for the large exporters are about 3 per cent in the second and third quarters of this year, followed by forecasts of 6 per cent and 8 per cent for the subsequent two quarters.

Farmers seek more cash from processors

By Hugh Clayton

Farmers threatened yesterday to reduce vegetable sales unless their prices were paid increases by tinned and frozen food companies.

Mr Kenneth James, chief executive of the Processed Vegetable Growers' Association, said that 25 per cent would be needed to cover all increases since the last rise on peas, the best-selling processed vegetable in Britain.

Farmers received no increase for the 1978 crop after the vegetable glut of 1977 which cut sales of processed vegetables early this year. Mr James said that this harvest had been unusually long and expensive for peas. It had lasted 58 days instead of the usual period of about 42.

Farmers expect to take

weather risks. It seems that for 1978 they were persuaded to take an undue share of the market risk also. The 1978 pea harvest had left a big question mark in the minds of many growers over the future of the pea crop.

"Growers all over the country are already considering whether peas can hold their place in competition with other break crops."

There was scope for processors to raise prices. Frozen peas, for which farmers were paid a bulk price equivalent to about 6p a pound, had been raised in shops this week by 4p. They now sold for 35p a pound or more. Mr James said that the association, which represents more than 1,500 vegetable growers, had been told by members to seek "substantially increased prices".

Steel unions delay vote on Bilston closure

Steel union leaders will not consider any industrial action over the planned closure of the Bilston British Steel Corporation works in the west Midlands at least until after a meeting with top management next week.

The TUC steel industry committee is likely to reconvene, together with employee representatives from Bilston, a meeting of the joint planning committee on September 13.

"During discussions yesterday shop stewards demanded a meeting with Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry."

New capital issues tumble in August

Statistics compiled by Midland Bank show that the amount of "new money" raised in the United Kingdom by the issue of marketable securities in August was £64.8m, a considerable drop on the July total of £193.3m. In the first eight months of this year, £604.6m has been raised, compared with £843.8m in the same period of 1977.

Weather slows Travis & Arnold

Poor weather made for a slow start to the year at Northampton-based builders' merchant and timber importer, Travis & Arnold. However, pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30, are up nine per cent to £2.17m, on sales up from £23.8m to £30.5m.

Texas Instruments claims 2-year micro-circuits lead

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Texas Instruments, the world's largest manufacturer of semiconductor integrated circuits, today claimed that it would be two years ahead of Britain's state-backed Immos company in volume production of a key type of high-capacity computer memory micro-circuit for the 1980s.

Confirming the reported fact that TI has developed a 64-kilobit random-access memory (RAM), which represents a fourfold increase in capacity compared with present random-access memory circuits, the

company said in a statement that volume production would begin in the first quarter of next year.

Immos, the National Enterprise Board's recently formed subsidiary, expects to have its own version of the circuit in full production by 1981.

At a press conference preceding the announcement, Mr Robb Wilmut, managing director of the American-owned multinational United Kingdom subsidiary, said the company expected the new circuit to be the first of its kind in the world, and to become an "industry standard".

Strikes threaten Renault and Volvo suppliers

A strike may threaten spare parts supplies to Renault car owners in Britain. The strikers, workers at the French group's parts distribution centre at Rose Kiln Lane, Reading, Berkshire, walked out on Wednesday when two colleagues were suspended.

The dispute started over a claim for a £1 a week productivity bonus. The men are members of the Transport and General Workers' Union. Their shop steward, Mr Richard Harrison, said members had blacked all non-union transport.

In brief

Rising costs undermine carpet profits

Britain's struggling carpet industry has not been able to raise prices sufficiently to cover substantial increases in the cost of raw materials, general overheads and labour, according to a report published yesterday.

The latest Business Ratio survey of carpet manufacturers and distributors by Inter Company Comparisons shows that the average annual wage for workers in carpet manufacturing rose from £1,860 to £3,113 in the three years up to April last year, an increase of 67 per cent.

Yet in the same period sales per employee rose by only 8 per cent and profits per employee by about 10 per cent.

Distributors fared better. Average wages increased by 47 per cent while sales per employee rose by 66 per cent and profits by 94 per cent.

The report says highly competitive conditions combined with excess capacity are constraining prospects for improving, albeit slowly, and it may take some time to return to the profitability seen in 1973-74, the last good period for the industry.

The survey covering 54 manufacturers and 45 distributors showed most companies have suffered from overcapacity, particularly in printed tufted carpets.

Quotas set on trouser imports

Formal restrictions on rapidly rising imports of women's trousers from the Philippines have been imposed by the Department of Trade. The quotas for this year have been set at 172,000 pairs.

The bilateral trade agreement negotiated by the European Commission with the Philippines last autumn did not include a quota for exports to the United Kingdom of women's trousers. But after representations from the British Government, the commission sought a further level of restraint from the Philippines. Import licences will be revoked today.

Offshore safety rules

An independent committee has been set up under Dr J. H. Burgoyne, a consulting engineer, to review offshore oil safety regulations. Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, has instructed the committee to consider the effectiveness of the department's regulations governing the development of oil and gas offshore.

Ninian pay dispute

Nearly 500 men have asked to be taken off Chevron's central platform in the Ninian oilfield in the North Sea because of a pay dispute. It involves men employed by CJB Offshore and centres on payments for time not worked during strike action when the central platform hook-up work was in progress.

£13m turbine order

General Electric Co. of America has been awarded a £25m (about £13m) contract for five gas turbines for Mobil Exploration operators for the Statoff/Mobil group. The turbines will be installed on the Statoff B platform.

Redundancy talks fail

Union/management talks on plans for the redundancy of 700 Alfred Herbert machine tool workers in Coventry reached deadlock yesterday. The alleged massed group says the redundancies are essential if the company is to survive.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Product liability 'false alarms'

From Mr Alastair MacGeorge
Sir, The Chief Executive of the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association Limited (BEAMA) is surely sounding false alarms about the likely consequences of legislation on product liability. (Business News Letters, September 4.) How can he substantiate his claim that there will be a "large number of frivolous and unreasonable claims" from those who consider themselves injured as a result of defective products?

As the law stands now the seller is strictly liable for defects in the goods he sells, and can be made to compensate the buyer for injuries suffered as a

result. Negligence does not have to be proved. This liability can normally be passed up the line of distribution, so the manufacturer will often in practice bear the cost of compensation. The problem is, the law of contract gives the right of redress only to the person who happens to buy the defective product. A law on product liability would extend the right to anyone injured by it. Take the tragedy of the Birmingham pensioners who contracted botulism from a can of salmon: should the right to compensation be affected by which of them happened to buy the can? We think not.

BEAMA feels that manufacturers should be able to rely on the "state of the art" defence. But retailers cannot, under law of contract. Yet there is little evidence that retailing interests are staggering under the weight of this burden. So cannot see why removing anomalous whereby consumers rights vary, depending on whether they have bought the goods who bring down a fresh avalanche of claims, frivolous or not, manufacturers' reluctance to

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR MACGEORGE
Assistant Director,
Consumers' Association,
14 Buckingham Street,
London WC2N 6DS.

Function of a trade union

From Mr Andrew Beckman
Sir, In your front-page article on the striking toolmakers (August 25), you quite rightly pointed out that if the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers did expel them, they would not only lose their present jobs, but also find it hard to obtain new employment.

I was always under the impression that one function of a trade union was to protect the right of the workers to go on strike, however let us read on before we moralise.

In the next paragraph you point out that they had "flouted union authority".

I then remembered that we were dealing with a nationalised industry whose future will be guided by a board containing worker directors selected by the union and that the action of

the toolmakers was unofficial; ie, against the union's wishes.

Since any strike action would be averted by trade union representation on the board of an industry, except of course an official strike action, it strikes me as logical that withdrawal of labour will become a thing of the past and the working man will once again be led like sheep whilst the union leaders, like the pigs in George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, join up with their masters.

Is that prominent scourge of Soviet inhumanity and totalitarianism, Mr Terence Duffy, prepared to make a stand against the inhumanity and totalitarianism in his own union?

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW BECKMAN,
32 Farm Avenue,
London, NW2 2BH.

Directory of postal codes

From Mr R. O. Leaver
Sir, The Post Office says any increase in size of the phone directory in order to show the post codes must at the expense of the telephone subscribers, for the benefit of the population as a whole. A

the characters of the code is a get mixed up with the phone number where exchange is shown, as London, Manchester, etc.

The answer is that a postal district in fact has a complete list of codes in form in alphabetical order, divided into smaller towns or villages. The head postman of the nearby districts is not to check their books after simple request.

In The Netherlands an address in the country is recently received a volume containing an address with its code. In a long term this would seem to be the ideal and the Post Office here on the one hand and the population on the other can choose how far they can go towards this ideal.

Yours faithfully,
R. O. LEAVER,
Bradford Park Drive,
Bradford,
Yorkshire,
BD9 5QE.

VAT zero-rating of supplies

From Mr Michael Frampton
Sir, I enjoyed the way in which the deputy chairman of HM Customs and Excise successfully parried a criticism (September 4).

In the past the Board has invited suggestions. I have never had a reply to the suggestion that supplies could be zero rated when made to registered persons—as in the days of purchase tax. (The time-consuming operation of calculating input tax would thus be eliminated.)

I realize that there would be complications which would arise but I would have expected that the reduction in business and Customs and Excise staffs

would be an overwhelming compensation.

I hope you will allow me the courtesy of your columns to elicit a reply.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL FRAMPTON,
Mill Cottage,
Ashford-in-the-Water,
Near Bakewell,
Derbyshire DE4 1PZ,
September 5.

Spending by trustees on works of art

From Mr W. P. C. Davis
Sir, It has long been an established principle of our law that the expenditure of capital by trustees on works of art and other forms of property incapable of producing income is not an "investment". Trustees who spend capital on works of art could be held to be in breach of trust unless their trust deed confers upon them express power to expend capital on such forms of property. If the trustees have acted in breach of trust and lost results, any beneficiary can claim against the trustees requiring them to make good the loss out of their own pockets.

The rule applies to trustees of pension funds as well as to trustees of private trusts and one wonders whether it is not sometimes overlooked.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK DAVIS,
1 Bedford Row,
London, WC1R 4BZ,
August 29.



BEARER DEPOSITARY RECEIPTS

Following the DIVIDEND DECLARATION by the Company on 13 July 1978 NOTICE is now given that the following DISTRIBUTION will become payable to Authorised Depositories on or after 11 September 1978 against presentation to the Depository (as below) of Claim Forms (obtainable from the Depository) listing Bearer Depositary Receipts.

Gross Distribution per Unit 4.50 cents
Less 15% US Withholding Tax 0.675 cents
3.825 cents per Unit
= £0.019767

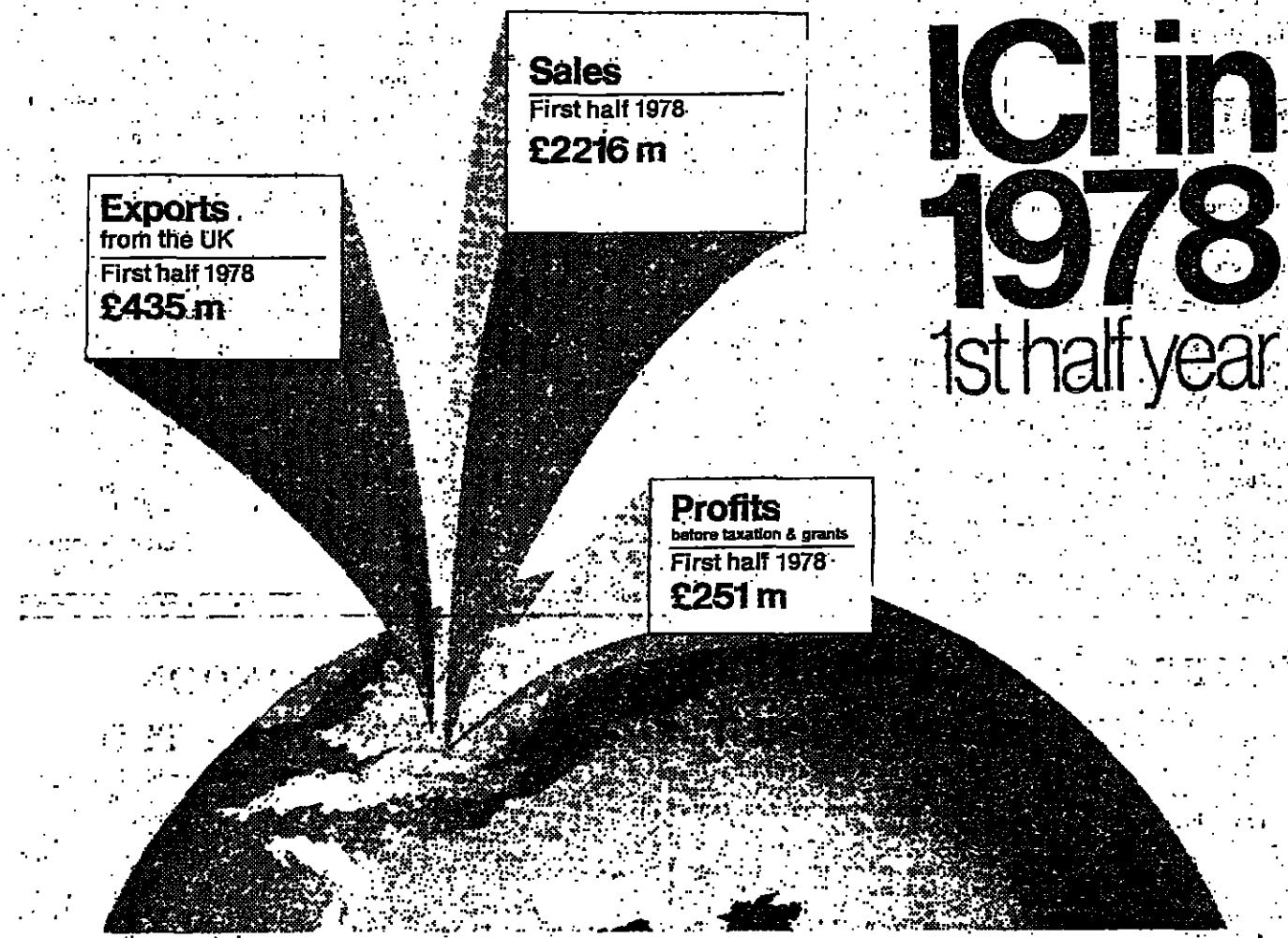
Converted at \$1.935

DEPOSITARY

National Westminster Bank Limited
Stock Office Services
5th Floor
Drapers Gardens
12 Throgmorton Avenue
London EC2P 2ES
6 September 1978

YOUR COMPANY'S DISTINCTION DESERVES RECOGNITION

The Times Awards for the best advertisement of a company's results enters its fourth year. Your entry could bring you the honours. Telephone Tony Tollworthy 01-837 1234 Ext. 7696.



The Board of Directors of Imperial Chemical Industries Limited announce the unaudited figures of the trading results of the Group for the first half of 1978 with comparative figures for 1977.

| 1977 | Year | 1978 | First Half |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| First Half | £ millions | First Half | £ millions |
| 2,414 | 4,663 | 2,216 | 4,663 |
| 309 | 483 | 251 | 483 |
| 109 | 221 | 107 | 221 |
| 8 | 29 | 4 | 29 |
| 133 | 202 | 85 | 202 |
| 176 | 281 | 166 | 281 |
| 14 | 26 | 8 | 26 |
| 162 | 255 | 158 | 255 |
| 1 | 29 | 5 | 29 |
| 163 | 226 | 153 | 226 |

The Group sold its 63% interest in Imperial Metal Industries Ltd. (IMI) in early November 1977. IMI's results are included in Group results up to 31 October 1977, but their sales have been excluded from 1977 figures when making the comparisons with 1978 in the following two paragraphs.

Group sales in the first half of 1978 were £2,216m. (first half 1977 £2,190m.) The value of sales in the UK increased by £53m, to £875m, but in overseas markets sales values fell by £27m, to £1,341m. The f.o.b. value of exports from the UK for the first half 1978 was £435m. (first half 1977 £454m.) The reductions in the values of overseas sales and exports from the UK were due to the higher average value of sterling.

After a depressed second half of 1977 and little improvement overall in the volume of Group sales in the first quarter of 1978, there was some increase in the second quarter which also benefited from the lower value of sterling compared with the first quarter. Profitability, however, continues to be limited by the effect of overcapacity on prices, and by increasing costs.

The following table summarises the quarterly sales and profits before taxation:

| 1977 | Group sales | Group profit before tax | | Total |
|--------------|-------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| | | Excluding exchange gain/loss | Exchange gain/loss | |
| 1st Quarter | 1,190 | 148 | -7 | 141 |
| 2nd Quarter | 1,224 | 169 | -1 | 168 |
| 3rd Quarter | 1,136 | 107 | -2 | 105 |
| 4th Quarter* | 1,113 | 88 | -19 | 69 |
| Year | 4,663 | 512 | -29 | 483 |

*IMI included to 31 October 1977 only.

On a current cost accounting basis, the total of additional depreciation, cost of sales adjustment and erosion of the value of trade debtors less creditors would have reduced Group income before tax for the first half of 1978 by £137m, compared with reductions of £130m. for the first half of 1977 and £251m. for the full year.

The charge for taxation, less grants, for the first half of 1978 consisted of £65m. UK corporation tax, less a credit of £11m. for UK Government grants, £27m. overseas tax and £4m. on the profits of principal associated companies. If the proposals on deferred taxation contained in Exposure Draft 19 had been adopted for the first half of 1978, it is estimated that the taxation charge would have been £24m. lower compared with about £60m. lower for the full year 1977.

Interim dividend for 1978
The Board has declared an interim dividend of 10.0 pence (ten pence) on each ordinary share of £1.00. This dividend is payable on 10 November 1978 to ordinary shareholders registered in the books of the Company on 29 September 1978.

First nine months results of 1978
The trading results for the first nine months of 1978 will be announced on 23 November 1978.

Cadbury Schweppes LIMITED

INTERIM STATEMENT

Results for the 24 weeks ended 17 June 1978

| | Half Year | Half Year | Year |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| | 1978 | 1977 | 1977 |
| | £m | £m | £m |
| Group sales | 446.2 | 400.8 | 883.6 |
| Group profit before tax | 18.5 | 18.7 | 48.2 |
| Taxation | 5.8 | 6.2 | 15.2 |
| Group profit after tax | 12.7 | 12.5 | 33.0 |
| Dividends | 3.5 | 3.5 | 11.3 |

Results for the half year 1977 have been restated to reflect the revised policy for the treatment of deferred tax.

Points from the Statement by Sir Adrian Cadbury, Chairman

- * Sales for half year increased by 11.3% against same period in 1977.
- * Profits in line with expectations but major share is earned in second half.
- * United Kingdom sales show satisfactory increases except in Tea and Foods.
- * North American sales in dollars substantially up.
- * Peter Paul Inc. shows £0.3m. profit since April acquisition after charging interest on investment.
- * Board expects year to show improvement on 1977 if latest sales trends continue.
- * Interim Dividend of 0.95p, in line with last year, declared on ordinary stock.

Copies of the full Statement will be sent to all stockholders and further copies are available from the Secretary Cadbury Schweppes Limited, 1-10 Connaught Place, London W2 2EX

هكذا من الامل

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Testing the stock market's nerve

alarming

the election is not going to be in October, then is it going to be? That was the first question that markets will have to try to answer this morning. Moreover, until it comes clearer whether the Government will survive a vote on the Queen's Speech in November, the options remain wide-ranging. In other words, markets are left in a state of uncertainty.

Should it seem as the weeks unfold that the Government can in fact survive through the rest of this year, there must be a reasonable chance that markets will pay rather than attention to economic fundamentals and become less inhibited. By nature, they are too fidgety to remain still indefinitely.

Just how those fundamentals will be looked at later in the autumn remains to be seen. It is the key for markets is clearly going to be how the next round of pay negotiations starts to develop post-Brighton and the likely future for interest rates. To an extent the market will clearly depend on the former and, of course, on the trend in United States interest rates, but there must be some possibility that domestic rates will be moving upwards towards the turn of the year.

If, on the other hand, it starts to seem likely that the Government will be forced to go to the country before the end of the year, an election speculation is going to remain an important influence on market thinking. In that case, an important question for the market will be the authorities' ability to push through a monetary programme on any great scale. At the moment there is no advance funding being kept up beyond the end of the September banking month.

British Petroleum

Guaranteed optimism

Like Shell three weeks ago BP is taking a guardedly optimistic view of prospects for the remainder of this year. Underlying demand is improving and after the significant restocking which took place last year there are now signs that stocks are being created in front of any pricing action which BP may take later this year.

Certainly in Europe, which has been the main problem area for the company, the picture is not so bright. BP says that adding conditions generally have improved during the past six months, and that this trend continues into the third quarter. Even here, while still poor, are turning in better figures than those seen at the bottom of the recession in the second half of last year. Not that it is easy to detect any upturn from BP's second quarter figures which are complicated by the first time consolidation of Sohio, which prior to BP assuming a 50 per cent interest as it did this summer had been equity accounted.

With Sohio and its expanding profits from Alaskan crude production in on the new basis, BP net income runs out at £121m in the April/June period on sales of £3,600m. The impact of taking in Sohio on a consolidated basis can be seen by the fact that its contribution to net income has moved up from £8.5m on a re-stated 1977 first quarter to £46.2m this time.

That appears to leave BP income ex-Sohio ageing badly so far this year, but in fact it is slightly up if substantial stock profits taken into the first half of last year of around £60m are stripped out. It will be a little time of course before the market adjusts to the consolidation of Sohio, but with the trading cycle apparently turning up at last, production from the North Sea oil fields at a maximum average of 400,000 barrels a day and likely to remain here in the foreseeable future, Alaskan income increasing and the currency fluctuations not troublesome at the moment earnings should meet outside estimates of around 30p a share this year. So the shares are selling at around 15 times earnings and yielding 4.1 per cent. Next year with Nigerian oil coming on stream and the possibility of crude price increase should continue the improving trend which may help the market to generate some fresh enthusiasm for major oil stocks.

Looking for trends

Prospects for the world chemical industry remain hazy and still the most sanguine conclusion to be drawn from the recent results of the chemical majors is that the extended recession has come to an end and that an actual upturn has begun. Figures from the European groups have been at best mixed suggesting that overcapacity here is worse than in the rest of

pes

have changed to include, with Haslam, corporate planning for the entire group. In other words, Corby, 50 next birthday, is being groomed for the top another way.

For in the near future, Prudential Assurance will become the subsidiary of the as yet embryonic Prudential Corporation. This Americanization of the Pru was announced in May and reflects not merely the group's diversification outside its conventional business but its long-term ambitions for expansion.

Pru Corp still needs shareholder sanction—something before the end of this year—but the new moves mean that Haslam and Corby together will fill the chief executives' slots to the manner born.

The genial Haslam is a life man through and through, where Corby made his reputation as an actuary. He hasn't practised as such for some years now, although once an actuary, always an actuary.

Business Diary remembers bumping into Corby on the top of a number 8 bus in the worst days of 1974 and asking about the state of the world now that investment returns were substantially lower than income rises and inflation.

A tranquil Corby replied, "This is a mere hiccup as far as the Pru is concerned. We're looking much further ahead."

Business Diary: Lifemanship at the Pru

It has taken just over three years for Alan Froot to attain the managing directorship of the state-rescued Crown Agents, but there must be few candidates around with a pedigree suited to this particular institution.

Froot succeeds the able Sidney Eburne, who was named in June as the new chairman after a period of helping John Cuckney sort out a financial mess about which more will become known when the pending tribunal of inquiry starts its hearings on Monday week.

Froot came into the 'then crisis-ridden Crown Agents headquarters in January 1975, as general manager of banking services, moving up to the directorship of finance by November, 1976. Since last October, he has been holding down the sensitive post of controller of overseas governments and administrations (the principal clients).

The choice of the new managing director is an intriguing one, given Froot's background. He started working in the Bank of England's overseas and foreign department, then moved into the colonial service in 1952, working in Africa. After a spell in hospital administration, he resumed banking with the Bankers Trust Company through the sixties, progressing to a directorship of Bankers Trust

20 years on—the British Aluminium saga ends

The bid from Tube Investments and its sister, States partner Reynolds Metals for British Aluminium—which began in November 1958 and went on amid unprecedented acrimony into the following year probably began the modern era of takeovers and institutional influences. Now 20 years later Reynolds is placing the BA stake it fought so hard for.

In 1958 British Aluminium did not want to be seized by any one, but it did want assured supplies of raw aluminium to fill its processing capacity, and the bid to insure a new plant. On November 5 the chairman of British Aluminium, Marshal of the RAF Lord Portal, got a fateful letter. In it Sir Ivan Stedford, chairman of Tube Investments, said that in conjunction with its American partner Reynolds Metals it wanted to make an attractive offer for British Aluminium.

Lord Portal and his colleagues had other ideas. Put on his guard by Sir Ivan, he moved quickly to conclude a deal with Reynolds. The deal was for Reynolds to acquire 50 per cent of British Aluminium, known as Alcoa.

It did not take Sir Ivan long to point out that British Aluminium was running down an approach from Reynolds, an engineering group, selling shares to an American concern without disclosing the price, and rejecting the principle of going to BA shareholders first to see if they wanted to put up the money.

The crux of this attack was terminated by a brilliant German financier, Sir Sigmund Warburg of the merchant bank of London. He was that British Aluminium was ignoring the interests of its shareholders.

In its turn Tube Investments and its American partner made a shares and cash offer worth what was then the start of a long saga.

Peter Wainwright

ling sum of £35m for BA through a firm of investment bankers, Tube Investments.

Ostensibly, Tubes kept control and the Americans put up the cash. The Treasury which had the power to block one or both bids quickly temporized.

At the time, the Treasury was in a bit of a quandary. It was not clear whether to allow the takeover, which would mean that British Aluminium would be a foreign-owned company, or to block it, which would mean that British Aluminium would be a foreign-owned company.

One question raised itself again and again. Why did British Aluminium prefer a deal (without a bid) from Alcoa, and rebuff Tubes without putting the matter to its 17,000 shareholders? Once the two deals were announced, BA's present value was £25m (360p) but not to 78p, the value of the Tubes' bid.

Institutions went to a great meeting addressed by Lord Portal who failed to win them over and others not too keen to protest. The Bank of England was called one also. In vain did BA insist its dividend. By Christmas Tubes was clearly winning.

On January 1 as many as 14 institutions, merchant banks, issuing houses and investment firms made a curious offer designed solely to block Tubes, the United States upstart Reynolds, and Warburg.

The grouping offered every BA shareholder the chance of selling to him his holding at 82p, a condition that kept the rest. This strategy, announced on behalf of the 14, and led by Lord Kindersley of Lazard's and Mr. Olaf Hambro of Hambro's had a key weakness.

Much clearly depended on the share price of BA itself. In came Reynolds buying all the shares it could lay its hands on and going above the 80s or, so of the Tubes bid to do so.

By January 8 it was all over. Private shareholders had sold in the market and institutions such as the Church Commissioners had sold out to Reynolds too. The Treasury gave its formal blessing.

Other companies were frightened by BA's misfortune in ignoring its shareholders. Both EMI and Veneta hastened to give assurances that they would not issue authorized capital that would alter the control of the company without shareholders agreeing. In many ways it was the start of a new era.

British Aluminium

TI's baby

now

The question that must be asked about Reynolds Metals' decision to sell its British Aluminium stake is why, if the world's number three producer does not want to maintain its investment in the British aluminium industry, Tube Investments should think it worth not only staying in, but increasing its stake in BA from 50 to 58 per cent at a cost of £7.5m. It is true, of course, that TI will now be able to consolidate BA fully. Reynolds, for its part, was only drawing dividend income, and it believes that packaging and other developments in the United States make that market a more attractive home for its money than a portfolio holding in BA.

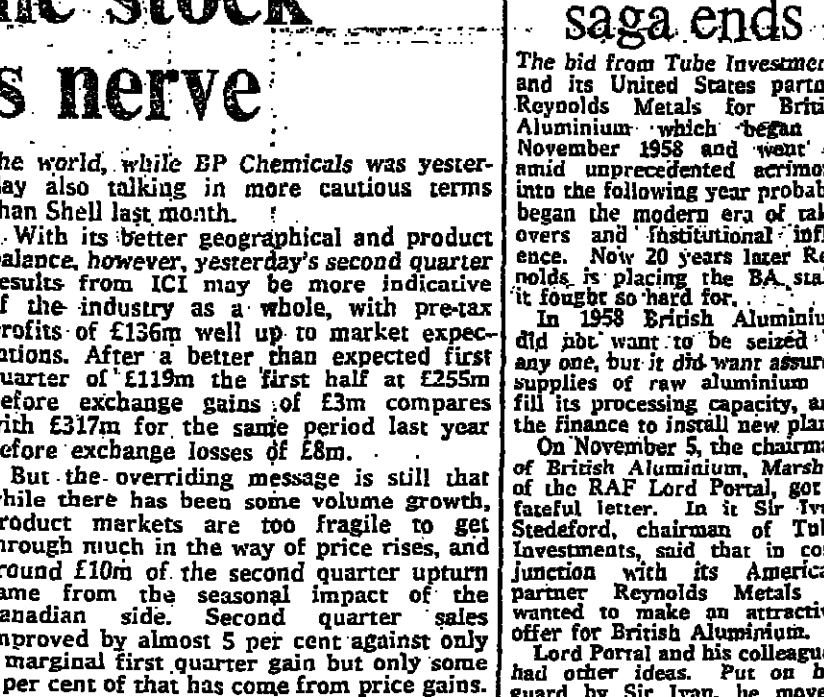
By the same token, however, it has only been in the past year or so that Reynolds could decently contemplate disengaging from BA. Last year it made £24m and this year it is forecasting about the same again, but hitherto BA's record has been, at best, erratic. Only three times in the past 12 years have its profits topped the £4.8m achieved in 1966, and as recently as 1975 it made a mere £1.7m.

BA insists that Reynolds is not simply taking the chance to get out at the top of the cycle. It says the outlook for 1979 is good and that projected annual growth in demand of 5-6 per cent for the next five years comfortably exceeds the 3 per cent forecast rise in capacity. The industry worldwide, meanwhile, is operating at nearly 90 per cent of capacity.

But the industry's volatile record demonstrates how vulnerable it can be to short term fluctuations in demand. Much, of course, depends on pricing. This sort of doubt seems to be implicit in the 775p price at which Reynolds' shares were placed. The yield is 5.6 per cent and the historic price ratio is 1.5 times earnings.

Admittedly, BA has done much to improve productivity and the Invergordon smelter is increasingly profitable, but assuming the shares trade at something over 800p, the rating will only be broadly in line with that of Alcan, and BA will have a lot to do to convince the market that it is anything other than a highly cyclical stock.

Monsters bringing power from space



Space construction techniques for possible solar power satellites and other spacecraft will be tested on board a space shuttle using this beam builder, constructed for the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration by Grumman. The machine automatically produces lengths of the frame girder shown.

What is 15 miles long, three miles wide, travels at 6,800 mph and appears to be motionless and generates ten thousand megawatts of electricity?

Today, nothing; but, the year 2000 perhaps, a solar power satellite. Long the subject of technical papers by enthusiasts, this concept is now getting cautiously under way in the United States with an official authorization of \$25m about £13m) to begin preliminary studies and frame a national programme.

Boeing Aerospace and Grumman Corporation are mounting a coordinated research effort to explore the possibilities and problems of solar power satellites. At the Society of British Aerospace Companies show at Farnborough this week, company executives outlined their present thinking.

They start by giving credit for much of the pioneering analysis of the concept to Dr Peter Glasner of the Arthur D. Little consultancy, who for many years has written and presented conference papers on this subject. In essence, the idea is that a huge, earth-orbiting satellite would receive virtually uninterrupted radiation from the sun, convert it to electricity and then to microwave radiation, and subsequently beam this power down to earth, where it would be reconverted into electricity.

At the geostationary orbital height of about 22,300 miles above the equator the satellite's motion would match the rotation of the earth and thus it would appear to be stationary in the sky. The satellite would be a large, flat, rectangular structure, about 15 miles long and 3 miles wide, with a central hub and a large number of solar panels extending from it.

Research and development is also under way in the United States and elsewhere on tapping the sun's power for electricity by receiving and converting it at sites on the ground.

The satellite plan is unprecedented in scale and mind-boggling in its implications. Each satellite would cover the area of a battleship and would need to be assembled in space. Launch schedules involved in construction would most likely resemble airline timetables.

"But the solar satellite programme is a technical feasibility study," says Mr. Harry Goldie, executive vice-president of Boeing Aerospace, "and the real problems will be political and economic."

There is no single element we don't see how to do—though the price might not be right at present. Propponents of space solar power realize that the electricity utilities, as customers for the power, will have to be closely involved in the overall plan.

tested. At Grumman Aerospace Corporation at Bethpage, Long Island, a full-scale "beam builder" has been demonstrated. This machine converts rods of aluminium alloy sheet into structural beams.

The edges of the alloy strips are folded over by rollers to give stiffness, and the strips are pushed out of the machine to form three basic longitudinal elements which are braced into a triangular-section open beam by cross-braces that are automatically welded in place.

The beam extends continuously from the machine and is cut to length.

Measuring 14ft by 8ft, the present beam builder weighs 22,000lb and can produce a 1,000ft long beam from a single supply of three reels of aluminium. Reeling in the machine to form the basic longitudinal elements of unlimited length—because of the effective absence of gravity in space, the alloy can be very thin and the beams very fragile by earth standards.

This first beam builder is now being tested at the Marshall Space Flight Centre in Huntsville, Alabama. Afterwards it will be modified to cut 8,000lb from its weight before orbital tests on board a space shuttle vehicle. A version using composite materials is also being designed.

Two methods of producing electrical power on board the satellite are being considered. The simpler one is to have a flat panel, 13 or 15 miles long

Mr Fukuda's Middle Eastern mission

Japanese bureaucrats hope that Mr Fukuda will erase the image of "oil begging diplomacy" created by Fleetfooted politicians who made panic visits to the Middle East during the 1973 oil crisis to keep the oil coming.

Arabs remember bitterly that Japanese politicians made many promises to supply them with economic cooperation but after the emergency Tokyo began dragging its feet on specific emergency promised projects.

In the meantime, the value of Japan's exports to the Middle East has grown enormously. After the United States, Saudi Arabia was Japan's biggest single export market last year.

Now after several years of backsliding on its 1973 promises, Japanese economic cooperation projects have made great progress, especially in the Gulf States.

Mr Fukuda brings with him offers of technological cooperation and atomic energy know-how. Iran is particularly interested in Japanese atomic power technology. Teheran plans to supply at least half of its energy needs from atomic plants by the mid 1990s.

In exchange, Mr Fukuda wants assurances of oil supplies from Iran and a promise that oil prices will not be raised.

one of the visitors to Farnborough air show this week is Claude Blaine (left), to whom I spoke in London yesterday. Mme. Blaine is that unusual creature, a female aero engineer (although Lord knows female engineers of any sort are rare enough). She works with Sabena, the Belgian national airline, and her main duty at the moment is evaluating the airworthiness of the Sabena fleet, mostly Boeing 737s. Her grounding, if that is the word, in the aircraft industry is pretty thorough. She is, for instance, married to a colonel in the Belgian air force, whom she met when he was an instructor for pilots' licence; she qualified for a marriage licence as well.

greet the big pre-Christmas drinks-buying season.

Johnnie Walker Red Label, a brand famous throughout the world since 1908, is to disappear in this country after it row between DCL, the parent company, and the European Commission. It will continue to be available outside Britain.

The EEC, under pressure from the producers of French and Italian brandies, ordered DCL to sell Red Label at the same price both here and in Europe. Here, the price was about £8.50 a bottle, while in France it was £10.50. The difference between that and the retail price being

There was an unfortunate moment during the International Conference on Memory in Cardiff this week when a delegate emerged only to have forgotten where he had parked his car. I would have brought this story before the public earlier this week, but the chap who took the message didn't remember to tell me for 24 hours.

Ross Davies

and about three miles wide, consisting of thousands of millions of silicon solar cells similar to those used to provide electrical power for today's satellites. These photovoltaic cells convert solar radiation directly into electricity.

For this approach to be attractive the cost of the solar cells will need to come down from the present level of about \$10 per watt to one tenth of that figure.

The second method is based on the principle of the Brayton heat engine. Four large parabolic dishes would each reflect and concentrate the Sun's rays onto a solar furnace; gases in the furnace would expand to drive a series of turbo-generators to produce electricity.

The overall size of the satellite would be about the same as for the photovoltaic design.

An approach to space power systems could involve initial test satellites generating perhaps 50 megawatts and 100 megawatts as steps on the development path to the larger systems.

According to Mr Goldie, operational electricity—in limited amounts, but on an economic basis—could be coming out of the sky in about 20 years' time.

Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Mr Fukuda's Middle Eastern mission

Japan is taking the mountain to Mohammed with the official visit of Mr Takao Fukuda, the Prime Minister, to the Middle East this week. He is discussing economic cooperation projects and post-oil energy technology with Iran and Arab countries.

It is no coincidence that Mr Fukuda's schedule is confined to Gulf States which supply 80 per cent of Japan's present oil needs. In return for economic cooperation he hopes to ensure that the Arab oil tap stays open for Japan at stable prices.

The visit takes in Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Mr Fukuda's entourage includes financial experts to discuss international monetary problems with Arab counterparts; especially ways of salvaging the dollar for trade purposes.

The schedule has covered meetings with the Shah of Iran and Mr Sharif Enami, the Iranian Prime Minister, and included talks with King Khalid of Saudi Arabia.

Mr Fukuda is the first Japanese prime minister to visit the Middle East and Arab officials say the visit is long overdue. Mr Saburo Okuma, the Foreign Minister, went to the Middle East last January, also a first for his ministry, after much prompting from senior professional diplomats.

rotork

Rotork Limited

Interim Announcement

Unaudited results for the six months ended 30th June 1978

| | 1978 | 1977 |
|---|---------|---------|
| Turnover | £m 8.94 | £m 7.02 |
| Profit before taxation | 1.45 | 1.40 |
| Profit after taxation | 0.70 | 0.68 |
| Earnings per share | 7.5p | 7.4p |
| Earnings per share after capitalisation issue | 3.8p | 3.7p |

In a difficult and highly competitive international trading climate the Group's first half profit, showing a modest increase over the same period last year, was only achieved through a determined effort to increase turnover substantially.

Creditable results have again been achieved by the Controls and other Engineering Divisions and these are expected to continue throughout the year, although margins will remain under pressure. With a large part of our business in North America, sharp movements in the dollar can have an appreciable effect on the figures.

The Marine Division has had an unsatisfactory start to the year and has fallen well below our expectations. However, corrective action has now been taken and the Division's results will begin to show an improving trend in the second half.

Dividend
The Directors recommend an Interim Dividend of 0.65p per share (1977 equivalent 0.58p) to be paid on 3 November 1978 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 29 September 1978. The Interim Dividend will absorb £105,755 after a waiver of £14,950 (1977 £21,682 after a waiver of £14,777).

rotork

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

£3.8m rights

Statement clears way for advance

the election uncertainty out of the way—at least temporarily—the market set fair for a strong run over the next few weeks.

dealers now feel that the ordinary share index has rallied some 15 points over the past three days, moving out of the 480-520 band and on up to its peak.

Investors, however, are still wary of the Prime Minister's statement, but the index none the less managed a 5.2 climb, its best level of the year.

As Tilling firmed slightly yesterday at the start of the week, the interim figures next week are expected to be a bit better.

Following the bid for Fluoride, the market has been a bit depressed, but analysts expect a near 30 per cent profit improvement to around £2m in the equity.

only one occasion over the past weeks have the 5,000 level and some of the low turnover continued until the market finally goes to the limit.

Invested securities had a very quiet session with a rising early fall of light to end with a gain of sixteenth, where changed. The longer end, stocks showed an eighth easier on the day.

Among the leader stocks, ICI was the bell wether, the market higher on the profits much in line with the news.

ICI ended 6p better at 406p, while elsewhere Fisons firmed 3p to 383p, Beecham added 5p to 715p, Unilever went 6p to 578p and Courtaulds a penny to 177p.

LTS at 320p, and GEC at 310p, held steady but GKN, which was the market leader, was down 1p to 268p, continued to 268p at the back of analysts, downgrading profit forecasts on next week's results. John Brown also slipped back, losing 2p to 466p.

In oils BP ended unchanged at 894p after trading down to 889p on one stage. Although profits were below expectations, the shares were underpinned by a confident statement for the second half. Shell at 576p and Tricor, reporting next week, at 175p firmed a couple of pence.

Several groups asked shareholders for cash yesterday. British Printing Corporation ended unchanged at 53p after a £3.8m rights issue while Hill & Smith were similarly unchanged at 87p following a £1.57m fund-raising exercise.

A dividend boosting cash call from Rattners added 9p to the shares at 77p but 20 per cent stakeholder H. Samuel was unchanged at 193p.

Elsewhere company trading news dominated the action. Cadbury Schweppes, in line with estimates, went a penny better to 58p while BET firmed 5p to 115p and Richard Costain climbed 8p to 250p after beating market hopes.

Sharply higher profits and a scrip from S. Gaskett added 5p to the shares at 58p while M. Mole firmed 2p to 31p, Wilson (Connolly) rose 6p to 165p and Morgan Crucible was lifted 3p to 130p.

By contrast Gibbons Dudley shed 4p to 77p.

Textiles group, Brigray, trading at 81p, has been attracting a little speculative interest of late on hopes that the group will return to the dividend list later this year. There has been no payout to shareholders since 1974.

Equity turnover on September 7 was £57.82m (15.48p per share). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, BP, Beecham, Cadbury Schweppes, GEC, Reckitt & Colman, Shell, RIZ, Distillers, R. Costain, Compton Webb, P. O. GKN and Dowty Group.

British Aluminium were suspended at 735p in front of a £30m share placing of the Reynolds holding while Tubes, which controls the group, firmed 6p to 406p.

Amaz was also suspended, in New York, following a bid from Standard Oil. Selection Trust, with an 8.3 per cent holding in Amaz, climbed 3p to 498p while Charles Consolidated, which holds 30 per cent of Selection Trust, added 4p to 152p.

Northern Mining firmed another 4p to 160p on further consideration of the diamond statement by CRA, 9p lower at 326p on profit-taking.

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| Company | Sales | Profits | Earnings | Div | Pay | Year's |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------|------------|
| £m | £m | £m | per share | pence | date | total |
| Argus Press (I) | 8.34(5.86) | 1.27(0.55) | 17.08(7.35) | 6.0(3.0) | 26/10 | — |
| Assam (I) | 14.1(15.0) | 3.7(6.8) | 19.47(34.11) | 7.0(10.0) | 26/10 | — |
| B.E.T. (I) | 63.15(512.86) | 67.0(55.3) | 17(13.4) | 4.08(3.62) | 27/10 | 5.78(5.16) |
| Brit Enkalon (I) | 26.1(23.9) | 0.266(1.49b) | 2b(5b) | — | — | — |
| Brit Petroleum (I) | 8.42(10.7) | 205.4(54.3) | — | 7.78(6.98) | 9/11 | (12.10) |
| Brit Printing (I) | 89.4(72.6) | 4.3(0.51) | — | 1.1(1.0) | 7/12 | 3.5(3.1) |
| Cadbury Schweppes (I) | 446.2(400.8) | 18.5(17.8) | 11.42(8.05) | 0.95(0.95) | 2/1 | — |
| S. Gaskett (I) | 13.8(13.2) | 1.17(0.78) | — | 0.35(0.2) | 13/12 | 2.15(2.0) |
| City & Commercial (I) | — | 0.41(0.37) | — | 1.06(0.93) | 30/9 | (1.81) |
| Wm Collins (I) | 27.16(24.0) | 1.23(1.02) | 6.3(4.1) | 2.02(2.08) | 11/10 | (14.63) |
| Richard Costain (I) | 250.0(197.0) | 16.2(11.5) | 2.07(1.5) | 2.07(1.5) | 2/10 | (2.3) |
| Gra. Mining (I) | 6.44(5.8) | 0.44(0.3) | 340(257) | 0.5(0.4) | 6/11 | (2.49) |
| Gibbons Dudley (I) | 19.6(18.5) | 1.6(1.8) | — | 0.74(0.66) | 6/11 | (2.49) |
| Goode Durrant (I) | 29.8(33.3) | 0.28(0.5) | — | — | — | — |
| ICI (I) | 2,220(2,414) | 251.0(308.0) | 1.5(1.1) | 10(9) | 10/11 | (16.31) |
| Lloyds & European (I) | 7.03(0.95) | 0.35(0.13) | 1.5(1.1) | 0.5(Nu) | 7/11 | (0.5) |
| M. Mole (I) | 0.94(0.73) | 0.10(0.05) | — | — | — | — |
| Morgan Crucible (I) | 49.8(45.7) | 6.00(5.05) | 7.5(9.8) | 3.65(3.07) | 3/1 | (3.27) |
| Abel Morrell (I) | 3.76(3.39) | 0.17(0.29) | — | 0.57(0.57) | 4/10 | (2.41) |
| Prov. Lamdries (I) | 0.61(0.42) | 0.03(0.03b) | — | 0.16(0.16) | 24/11 | (0.39) |
| Rawlings Bros (I) | 4.7(3.3) | 0.185(0.13b) | — | — | — | — |
| Shana Ware (I) | 4.5(4.4) | 0.10(0.08) | — | 0.10(0.09) | 27/10 | (—) |
| Sharpe & Fisher (I) | 8.45(7.2) | 0.43(0.3) | — | 0.70(0.65c) | 10/11 | (2.95c) |
| Wilson (Connolly) (I) | 10.6(16.1) | 1.5(1.18) | 14.1(11.3) | 1.5(1.24) | 13/10 | (2.49) |
| H. Woodward (I) | 5.04(4.52) | 0.21(0.22) | — | 0.5(0.4) | 20/10 | (1.7) |

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.49. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net of tax. Excludes 0.22p extra. b=Loss. c=Adjusted for scrip. d=Excludes 0.027p extra. s=Rand. f=Cum.

Richard Costain promise big rise in dividend when allowed

Ray Maughan
Richard Costain is keeping in line with its track record over the past decade, an interim advance of 41 per cent to pre-tax profits of £22m in the six months to June 30.

Chief executive, Mr. John Sowden, said "dividends permitted to shareholders for supporting the up with risk capital have become totally anachronistic."

he half-year dividend is set by the maximum permitted 10 per cent to 3.83p here, but the board intends, it is able, "to correct position by substantially raised dividend payments."

With over 13 times cover for historic dividend level, Costain clearly enjoys plenty of room to fulfil its dividend traditions and, since around a quarter of its work load carried out abroad, there is reason to suppose the dividends in the home market will be avoided. The order book has

jumped by £50m over the last 12 months to £700m.

Cash in the last balance sheet stood at £52m and will be substantially greater now. The intended expansion targets are the North American open cast mining and process engineering markets but no ready United Kingdom acquisition has been identified.

It seems fairly clear that Costain will not be following John Laing in splitting out its property interests. This would be a very fragmented corporate exercise, Mr. Sowden explained yesterday. But with Prudential Assurance funding, a great number of Costain's many partnership development schemes, it would obviously be difficult to separate a clearly defined property animal.

In any event, the chairman pointed out, Costain appears to have avoided leaving a commitment to guaranteeing contract work with property assets.

The group is looking for another year of record profits. The shares climbed 3p to 250p yesterday where the prospective p/e ratio should be very comfortably within single figures.

Mr. John Sowden, chairman of Richard Costain.

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Morgan Crucible level in first half despite fire

Ray Maughan
Morgan Crucible looks to have made up most of the £800,000 first-quarter shortfall in profits of £3m against 0.5m in the six months ended June 30.

The improvement, Mr. Ian Weston Smith claims, is less than it would have been because of fire at Morgan Crucible Ceramic in Liege.

The ceramic fibre companies, which often form part of the group, performed substantially better than the depressed half of 1977, sharply, the Morgan Crucible said. The group also performed well under the Thermochem, which also performed well.

Thermochem trading profits as a whole were barely changed, versus, at £3.13m in 1977, but the group also performed well under the Thermochem, which also performed well.

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S. Pearson not to raise offer for Longman

There will be no increased offer by S. Pearson if its £38m bid for the 36.4 per cent minority of Pearson Longman does not succeed, said Pearson's board yesterday following institutional opposition to the offer.

"There has not been any criticism as to the principle of the offer, but rather to its execution," said Pearson.

It pointed out that the substantial holder of preference shares which intends to vote against the preference share proposals will have no effect on the ordinary share proposals.

Pearson Longman, an ordinary shareholder, will retain a substantial interest in their own company through their holding in Pearson and will, "at the same time, acquire an interest in a range of other activities which gives a broader and less cyclical base to the earnings from which dividends are derived," said Pearson.

It added that shareholders will receive an immediate significant dividend increase by accepting the offer. Three independent directors of Pearson Longman support the bid.

British Enkalon, the man-made fibres producer, reported a drop in pre-tax losses to £265,000 from £1.5m for the half-year June 30.

The group's trading loss is down from £498,000 to £10,000 and shows an improvement compared to both halves of 1977. The results have been improved by a change in production efficiency by the group, which is more than 70 per cent owned by the Dutch chemicals giant, Akzo.

Interest charges have also been reduced as a result of substantially lower bank borrowings.

But chairman, Mr. J. Martin Ritchie, said that he remains cautious about the outlook for the second half. "I cannot see any improvement in the economic situation in the man-made fibre industry. There is still an imbalance between capacity and demand and this, coupled with the continuing high level of imports, makes it impossible for me to be any more specific about the result for the year as a whole."

Proceeds, the group said, would be used to reduce its overdraft at £1m.

H. Samuel, one of the group's closest rivals, which holds nearly 20 per cent of Rattners equity, is expected by some observers to take up its entitlement. However, nobody from Samuel's was available for comment yesterday.

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Hill & Smith raising a total of £1.57m

By Rosemary Unsworth
Hill & Smith, the Midlands steel stockholding and metal fabricating group, is raising £1.57m through a one-for-seven rights issue at 75p and the issue of £1m 14 per cent debenture stock.

The issues will be used for further acquisitions and additional working capital within the next few months. The ordinary share rights issue gives shareholders a 12p discount on the overnight price, with a prospective yield of 5.2 per cent at the ex-rights price of 85.5p.

Shareholders will also be entitled to £2 of debenture stock at 95p for every £1 of ordinary holding of 11 shares, which will raise 66 per cent of the total. The board intends to propose a 50 per cent increase on the total dividend for the year to September 30, 1978, making 4.47p gross, compared with 3p last year. An interim of 1.1p has already been paid. It also hopes to obtain Treasury permission to pay 7p per cent increase on the 1978-79 total dividend compared with last year's on the basis of the two issues.

Cadbury still waits on consumer boom

By Richard Allen
Cadbury Schweppes is still awaiting real signs that the consumer spending boom, so far restricted to durable goods, has started to spill over into food and confectionery.

In the meantime trading is dull. Profits in the first half of the year dipped £200,000 to £18.5m, despite a sales increase of 11 per cent to £445m.

However, the group had given a warning of a possible first-half setback and the shares added 1p yesterday to 53p on chairman, Sir Adrian Cadbury's forecast of an improved result for the full year.

In the United Kingdom trading profits dropped from £13.4m to £11.3m. Here the group reports a satisfactory improvement in all areas except food, where margins have been squeezed by the supermarket price war, and tea.

Cadbury has not attempted to estimate the effect of the intervention by Mr. Roy Hattersley, Secretary for Prices, into the tea trade earlier this year. However, trade sources estimate the cost to the group of the consequent disruption in the market could have been as much as £2m.

The interim dividend is maintained at 1.42p.

Back to profits at Goode Durrant

By Tony May
Goode Durrant & Murray is back in profit, and is hoping to solve the difficulties of its 61.2 per cent controlled building and property offshoot, Rawlings Bros, by bidding 10p a share for the group. The bid is agreed.

Conflicting and shipping house Goode Durrant has nursed a loss of £508,000 into a pre-tax profit of £286,000 for the six months to April 30, on turnover down from £33.3m to £29.8m.

Mr. Lionel Robinson, the chairman, says that the reshaping of the United Kingdom business is beginning to bear fruit. This, together with the improved performance of Rawlings, where losses for the half year were cut from £531,000 to £35,000, are behind the group's progress.

For some time Rawlings has only been able to continue trading with support from Goode Durrant whose loans to Rawlings current account at some £3.4m. Rawlings had a net deficiency of ordinary shareholders' funds of about £1.6m at October 31.

Occidental Overseas Capital Corporation

84% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures due October 1, 1979
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Fiscal Agency Agreement dated as of October 1, 1969 between Occidental Overseas Capital Corporation, Occidental Petroleum Corporation, Guarantor, and The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), Fiscal Agent, \$200,000 in aggregate principal amount of the above-captioned Debentures will be redeemed for the sinking fund on October 1, 1978 at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to October 1, 1978.

The numbers of the Debentures to be redeemed are as follows:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1454 | 2596 | 4248 | 5196 | 6192 | 6887 | 8091 | 9021 | 9911 | 10705 | 11544 | 12336 | 13442 | 14423 | 15073 | 15728 | 16477 | 17290 | 18320 |
| 2145 | 2997 | 4248 | 5207 | 6201 | 6898 | 8102 | 9032 | 9922 | 10716 | 11555 | 12347 | 13453 | 14434 | 15084 | 15739 | 16488 | 17301 | 18331 |
| 2146 | 2998 | 4249 | 5208 | 6202 | 6899 | 8103 | 9033 | 9923 | 10717 | 11556 | 12348 | 13454 | 14435 | 15085 | 15740 | 16489 | 17302 | 18332 |
| 2147 | 2999 | 4250 | 5209 | 6203 | 6900 | 8104 | 9034 | 9924 | 10718 | 11557 | 12349 | 13455 | 14436 | 15086 | 15741 | 16490 | 17303 | 18333 |
| 2148 | 3000 | 4251 | 5210 | 6204 | 6901 | 8105 | 9035 | 9925 | 10719 | 11558 | 12350 | 13456 | 14437 | 15087 | 15742 | 16491 | 17304 | 18334 |
| 2149 | 3001 | 4252 | 5211 | 6205 | 6902 | 8106 | 9036 | 9926 | 10720 | 11559 | 12351 | 13457 | 14438 | 15088 | 15743 | 16492 | 17305 | 18335 |
| 2150 | 3002 | 4253 | 5212 | 6206 | 6903 | 8107 | 9037 | 9927 | 10721 | 11560 | 12352 | 13458 | 14439 | 15089 | 15744 | 16493 | 17306 | 18336 |
| 2151 | 3003 | 4254 | 5213 | 6207 | 6904 | 8108 | 9038 | 9928 | 10722 | 11561 | 12353 | 13459 | 14440 | 15090 | 15745 | 16494 | 17307 | 18337 |
| 2152 | 3004 | 4255 | 5214 | 6208 | 6905 | 8109 | 9039 | 9929 | 10723 | 11562 | 12354 | 13460 | 14441 | 15091 | 15746 | 16495 | 17308 | 18338 |
| 2153 | 3005 | 4256 | 5215 | 6209 | 6906 | 8110 | 9040 | 9930 | 10724 | 11563 | 12355 | 13461 | 14442 | 15092 | 15747 | 16496 | 17309 | 18339 |
| 2154 | 3006 | 4257 | 5216 | 6210 | 6907 | 8111 | 9041 | 9931 | 10725 | 11564 | 12356 | 13462 | 14443 | 15093 | 15748 | 16497 | 17310 | 18340 |
| 2155 | 3007 | 4258 | 5217 | 6211 | 6908 | 8112 | 9042 | 9932 | 10726 | 11565 | 12357 | 13463 | 14444 | 15094 | 15749 | 16498 | 17311 | 18341 |
| 2156 | 3008 | 4259 | 5218 | 6212 | 6909 | 8113 | 9043 | 9933 | 10727 | 11566 | 12358 | 13464 | 14445 | 15095 | 15750 | 16499 | 17312 | 18342 |
| 2157 | 3009 | 4260 | 5219 | 6213 | 6910 | 8114 | 9044 | 9934 | 10728 | 11567 | 12359 | 13465 | 14446 | 15096 | 15751 | 16500 | 17313 | 18343 |
| 2158 | 3010 | 4261 | 5220 | 6214 | 6911 | 8115 | 9045 | 9935 | 10729 | 11568 | 12360 | 13466 | 14447 | 15097 | 15752 | 16501 | 17314 | 18344 |

Commodities

كذلك من الأصل

Stock Exchange Prices

Equities buoyant

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Sept 4. Dealings End, Sept 15. § Contango Day, Sept 18. Settlement Day, Sept 26

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

PERSONAL CHOICE

TELEVISION

RADIO

BBC 1

6.40 am. Open University (until 7.55): Festival of the Supreme Being; 7.05, Rivers; 7.30, Heavy metal tolerance. Closedown at 7.55.
12.45 pm. News and weather.
7.00, Pebble Mill: a taste of the Old Wild West, and Peter Seabrook gives some gardening hints.
1.45, Triumph: Cuthbert's Morning Off (r). Closedown at 2.00.
3.45, Saskatchewan—Y Wlad Fawr (the big country).
4.20, Play School: for the under-fives (same as BBC 2, 11.00 am).
4.45, The Pink Panther: three cartoons (r).
5.10, Play Away: music and

fun, with the singer Julie Covington among the guests.
5.40, News, with Angela Ripston.
5.55, Nationwide: magazine programme and, at 6.45, the return of Sportsworld, presented by Desmond Lyncham.
7.00, Tom and Jerry: The Dog House (r).
7.05, News-Down: final contest between Cumbria and Hereford young farmers.
7.40, Young Dan! Boone: How Dan! Peter and Big Fox save a Cherokee village from destruction.
8.30, Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin: the boss comes to dinner at the Perrins (r).
9.00, News, and weekend weather.
9.25, Petrocelli: thriller. A

secretary is found dead. A young mother is accused of the murder. Petrocelli investigates. His life, too, is in peril.
10.15, Tonight: Valerie Singleton, almost unrecognizable with her hair of tight little curls, looks at the London entertainment scene; theatre and films included.
10.45, Film: Marjany on the Beach, 1935 version of one of nautical history's most notorious episodes. (See Personal Choice.)
12.55, Weather.
BBC 1 variations: MIDLANDS: 10.15, Look! Hear! Midsummer Night's Rock. EAST: 10.15, On Camera. WEST: 10.15, An Opera. BORN SOUTH: 10.15, Keep yesterday for tomorrow.

BBC 2

6.40 am. Open University (until 7.55): Investing in your children's future; 7.05, The 1973 oil crisis; 7.30, House of Refuge. Closedown at 7.55.
11.00, Play School: story, All the Fish in the Sea (Janet Lynch-Watson).
4.55 pm. Open University (until 7.00): War and Society; 5.20, The Earth's history; 5.45, Earthquakes and technology; 6.10, Genes and development; 6.35, Understanding: fluid effects.
7.00, News, subtitled for the hard of hearing.
7.05, Children's Wardrobe;

making clothes for little girls (r).
7.30, News and weather.
7.40, Six English Towns: Ludlow, Shropshire. Alec Taylor, who presents the last of this instructive series, says Ludlow is probably his favourite small town.
8.10, Fortissimo Jones: portrait of Daniel Jones, the Welsh composer. He is an excellent anecdotalist, and proves it in this programme. (See Personal Choice.)
8.55, Magoes: cartoon.
9.00, The Goodies: The three chums join the scouts. As a not-surprising result, scouting becomes illegal. Tim joins the Salvation Army (r).
9.30, Horizon: Bags of Life.

Add water to the membranes that bind our cells together, and you get the "bags" on which our lives depend. Now they are making artificial bags, and the possibilities are fascinating in terms of what they might be able to do to fight diseases.
10.20, Don't Forget to Write: last play in Charles Wood's comedy series. George Cole is the playwright. Gwen Watford, his wife, the elliptical dialogue sometimes makes you feel you are looking at life through the wrong end of the telescope (r).
11.15, News, weather.
11.25, Story: Boat Poem, by Bernard Spencer, read by Stephen Thorne.

THAMES

9.30 am. Talking Bikes: motor bikes and their riders (r).
9.55, Where the Curlew Calls: Yorkshire Dales bird life.
10.25, Film: Warpath, Sioux Indians and a bitter man. With Robert De Niro, Dean Cain.
12.00, The Learning Tree: wisdom and a song from the natural teacher; a wise old tree.
12.10 pm. Rainbow: the emotion for today is caring, the guest is Jo Rowbottom.
12.30, Look, Who's Talking: astrologer Roger Elliot tells almost all.
1.00, News, and at 1.20, Thames News.
1.30, Stars War: how the action film The Wild Geese was made.
2.00, Film: Hotel. Many subplots, many stars including Rod Taylor and Karl Malden.
4.15, The Flockton Flyer: old puffer is given new lease of life (r).

4.45, Runaround: children's quiz.
5.15, Thames Sport, with Ronald Allison as presenter.
5.45, News.
6.00, After Noon in Action: High and low living.
6.30, Emmerdale Farm: who owns the land?
7.30, The Rag Trade: new seven-part series of Fenner Fashions comedies. Miriam Karlin and Bernard Jones will provide a solid groundrock for the comic situations.
8.00, 3-2-1: Family quiz show. Ted Rogers is the MC.
9.00, The Foundation: Down plunge the company's shares and Tom Pearson has a showdown with the lovely Davina.
10.00, News.
10.30, Police Five: with Shaw Taylor.
10.40, Film: Hallabaloos over George and Bernard's Pictures: already shown in two parts. James Ivory's film is now shown complete.
12.10 am. George Hamilton IV: country music.
12.40, Close: Jane Austen's History of England.

11.25, Story: Boat Poem, by Bernard Spencer, read by Stephen Thorne.

Radio 4

6.00 am. News, weather.
6.10, Today.
6.45, A High Wind in Jamaica (5).
9.00, News.
9.05, Local Time.
9.25, Life and Times of the Piano: 10.00, News.
10.05, Checkpoint.
10.30, Service.
10.45, Story: Brother Joseph and the Bishop.
11.00, News.
11.05, Evening with Sir Gerald Evans.
12.00, News.
12.05, You and Yours.
12.27, My Music: Musical quiz.
12.55, Weather.
1.00, The World at One.
1.30, The Archers.
1.45, Woman's Hour.
2.45, Listen with Mother.
3.00, News.
3.05, Chance of a Lifetime (renewed choice).
4.00, News.
4.05, The Carat Business (jewellery trade).
4.35, Story: The Sword in the Stone (5).
5.00, PM Report.
5.40, Enquire Within: Listeners' Questions.
5.55, Weather.
6.00, News.
6.05, Going Places.
7.00, The Archers.
7.05, The Archers.
7.20, Pick of the Week.
8.10, Profile: Personal portrait.
8.30, Many Reasons Why: The Fall of Saigon.
9.15, Letter from America.
9.20, The Archers.
9.59, Weather.
10.00, The World Tonight.
10.30, A Little Night Exposure (renewed choice).
10.55, Nightcap: Mary and the Fruit Stall.
11.00, A Book at Bedtime: Zorba the Greek (10).

Radio 3

6.55 am. Weather.
7.00, News.
7.05, Concert: Glinski, Arensky, Tchaikovsky.
8.00, News.
8.05, Concert: Walton, Britten, Elgar, Bliss.
9.00, News.
9.05, Messiah.
9.25, Young Artists: Brahms, Liszt, Poulenc.
10.25, BBC Northern Ireland Orchestra: Schubert, Mozart, Debussy.
11.10, New Music Group of Scotland: Harper, Wilson, Wilkins.
12.30 pm. Three Choirs Festival, part 1: Wagner, Messiah.
1.00, News.
1.05, Playbill: Preview of Radios 3 and 4.
1.20, Three Choirs Festival, part 2: Cello and Piano recital: Webern, David, Beethoven.
3.00, Das Unaufhörliche: Hindemith.
4.45, The Young Idea: The Vacation Music.
5.45, Homebound Sound (mf).
6.05, The Archers.
6.10, Homebound Sound (cont. mf).
6.30, Lifelines: Leisure and Recreation.
7.30, Proms, part 1: Delius, Conolly.
8.30, Freedom and Heredity: talk by Sir David Owen.
8.40, Proms, part 2: Walton.
9.40, Sound Sense: Poetry.
10.20, Songs: Brahms, Massenet, Faure.
11.00, Violin and Piano: Denison, Beethoven.
11.45, News.

Radio 5

11.50-11.55, Schubert song: 11.55-12.00, Sports Desk. 12.00-12.15, Sports Desk. 12.15-12.30, Sports Desk. 12.30-12.45, Sports Desk. 12.45-1.00, Sports Desk. 1.00-1.15, Sports Desk. 1.15-1.30, Sports Desk. 1.30-1.45, Sports Desk. 1.45-2.00, Sports Desk. 2.00-2.15, Sports Desk. 2.15-2.30, Sports Desk. 2.30-2.45, Sports Desk. 2.45-3.00, Sports Desk. 3.00-3.15, Sports Desk. 3.15-3.30, Sports Desk. 3.30-3.45, Sports Desk. 3.45-4.00, Sports Desk. 4.00-4.15, Sports Desk. 4.15-4.30, Sports Desk. 4.30-4.45, Sports Desk. 4.45-5.00, Sports Desk. 5.00-5.15, Sports Desk. 5.15-5.30, Sports Desk. 5.30-5.45, Sports Desk. 5.45-6.00, Sports Desk. 6.00-6.15, Sports Desk. 6.15-6.30, Sports Desk. 6.30-6.45, Sports Desk. 6.45-7.00, Sports Desk. 7.00-7.15, Sports Desk. 7.15-7.30, Sports Desk. 7.30-7.45, Sports Desk. 7.45-8.00, Sports Desk. 8.00-8.15, Sports Desk. 8.15-8.30, Sports Desk. 8.30-8.45, Sports Desk. 8.45-9.00, Sports Desk. 9.00-9.15, Sports Desk. 9.15-9.30, Sports Desk. 9.30-9.45, Sports Desk. 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